

Sketch-Book. No 10.

From December 20-1837
To February 12th 1838.

Part 1.

Written on old Field Book
kept in pencil

The 4 parts of this No (10)
extended from December 20
1837, to June 4-1838.

Dr. Griffin's sermons 53. or
rather his insanity.

Col. Hewes' Journal from
last Massachusetts to Canada
1746. - page 44

December 1837.

1

Thursday 21. Fair and moderate for winter; the icy roads rendering sleighing good on smooth ground.

Friday 22 Cold morn and fair day & Cold throughout.

By the last account, from Canada it appears that the insurrection is subsiding in both provinces, and high rewards are offered for the leaders who have escaped. In Lower Canada a severe skirmish has occurred at St. Remond, between a party of insurgents who had procured arms & two swivels at Swanton in Vermont, and a party of loyal militia, or Volunteers, ~~and~~ the former defeated and driven back with the loss of the swivels, and the insurgent commander Bonchott taken and shot. The insurgents were ambushed by the royalists a few killed, wounded & captured - their number stated from 40 to 90, and the royalists several hundreds. This happened on the 6th instant. A Report is in circulation, that a battle between the insurgent & royalist, had taken place at the Lake of Two mountains, north of Montreal.

in which the former were successful.
This is very irrefragable under pre-
sent circumstances; nor does there ap-
pear the least chance of success on
the part of the Insurgents. The leaders
probably founded their expectation on
our example in the revolution, without
reflecting that we were then 3,000,000 miles
spread over a wide extent of country,
with many harbors, and an extended
sea coast, from which we could hold
intercourse with foreign nations, and
procure arms and munitions of war.

An accident ^{very recent} lately occurred on the Porto-
mouth and Roanoke Rail Road, causing the
death of two persons & wounding several
others. An iron rail had started from
the timber to which it was nailed &
projected up, so as to stop the cars. I
had apprehended this might occur
early, the rails were firmly bolted on
the spikes carefully clinched to pre-
vent their working loose. Too much
stress cannot be bestowed on the con-
struction of these roads; and with all
care accidents will occur where there is
great velocity in heavy loads, there must
be great momenta, and change something
will give way. The race for constructing

great roads, I think, will abate, except on
our great roads, and here, perhaps,
horses drawn will be found preferable
to steam engines. And one attempting too
great velocity - such as is not required
for advantageous business. A stride
of 50 miles per day, with heavy loads,
ought to suffice. Mail & passenger cars
which proceed with their present veloci-
ties, must look for accidents.

Saturday 23. Cold and fair morning
with Sunshine through the day.

Winter Solstice

The sun has now reached the
winter solstice, and gives us but a
short diurnal visit of a few minutes
over 9 hours, at the small altitude
at noon, of about 24 degrees; and
to compensate for the obliquity of his
rays we are compelled to pile the
wood upon our fires, and bundle up
in our winter clothes. How inviting
now appears the temperate regions of
the southern hemisphere in the midst
of summer, glowing with all the beau-
ties of vegetation, and the numerous
animal kingdom ^{and} in full vigor and activity.
What an enviable race are our birds

4 of passage; always led with the
warm rays of the sun; and fed and
clothed by ^{the} super-failing hand of na-
ture, they seem to be peculiarly favored.
But man fixed to place, has to endure the
vicissitudes of all seasons, to provide
his food, his cloths his fuel, his dwelling
yet ~~and~~ he has no cause to complain
of his lot. If he has not the feathers of
birds, nor the fin of beaus, reasoning for
settles ^{are} given him by his Creator, in the
^{due} exercise of which he learns arts and
sciences which enable him to obtain
from the elements nature has fur-
nished, all that is requisite for his
comfortable subsistence. Providence,
though bountiful, gives not to man
that which he can procure by his own
exertions. Man ploughs, sows, mows
and husbands his lands, and God
gives the increase; he collects materi-
als, houses, carries ^{for} ~~the~~, shepherds them
by geometrical rules and erects con-
venient edifices; and God gives them
stability; he gathers and stores
his crops and by a variety of processes
converts them to food and raiment,
~~and~~ ^{the} ~~which~~ ^{can} has fitted them; and thus

by a proper use of the elementary substances provided, man is enabled by his industry to supply his wants. If in any part of the globe he is found incapable of supplying his wants by his industry, it is either in the frigid zones. Man it is true subsists there, but with precocious misfortune, even with all his exertions; and it is a question with me, whether nature intended them for the residence of man. So long as more congenial regions can be found, man is free to choose means for his comfort, it would appear that he deviates from the dictates of nature in selecting a residence amidst snow and ice, where his wants cannot be supplied. Were he to take up his residence upon the crater of a volcano which periodically pours out its burning lava, could he say God placed him there? Or selecting a barren rock in mid-ocean, could he say he has been starved from the neglect of Providence to feed him? Such language from an intelligent being is inexcusable. Instinct is given to brutes; man has received reasoning powers, and in this consists their difference. Or as a plain but

sensible farmer once expressed himself on
seeing the ready movements of a horse
at his labor. "The horse knows, but does
not know that he knows; but man
knows and he knows that he knows."
A pretty nice metaphysical distinction.

Canada Insurgent.

A report this afternoon, by a Gentleman
from Vermont, says, the Insurgents have
attacked, taken and pillaged Montre-
al. What credit is due to the report, I
know not, but it is probably one
of the fabrications of the day. Before
this time, no doubt, British forces have
arrived in Lower Canada from New Bruns-
wick and Nova Scotia, by the way of
St. John's River & the insurrection may be suppressed.

A campaign in Lower Canada at this
season of year, must be extremely tedious
to the troops, and none but the most
hardy ~~troops~~ can sustain it. The suffer-
ings of our army in the early months
of 1776 are well remembered. In up-
per Canada the winter are less severe
than in the five days in a Canadian Win-
ter", says a settler at Lake Simco, "that a
man may not labor out the whole
year". But in every part of the Country

a winter campaign presents difficulties
not easily surmounted; and no pre-
sident can command such hospitality
in the field in this inclement season,
without the most urgent necessity.

Population of Lower Canada
according to a late Geographer 495,568
Upper Canada ————— 234,865
(In 1830) ————— Total 730,433

As many as four fifths are said to
be descendants of the French in the lower
Province. In the upper, the people
consist of ^{English} Irish Scotch and Americans
from the States, and some French.
Montreal contains about 30,000
Quebec do ————— do 21,000

The most populous part of the
country is confined to the St Law-
rence and the confluent streams,
where most of the French reside.

The distance from the Sea at the mouth
of St. Lawrence, to the western settlements
in upper Canada cannot be less than
900 miles.

Sunday 24 Cloudy with the aspect
of rain, though rather cold; after
noon clear and the air more
moderate.

8. December.

Monday 25 Clear and pleasant day; clouds run; very little wind has prevailed for several days.

Tuesday 26 Cloudy morning fair at noon & through the day; on ice crevices.

Effects of the Sun's Declination on Temperature.

The sun being now on his apparently spiral course towards the equator, increasing his altitude, we might *a priori* suppose the cold would decrease. But this is found not to be the fact; The severity of the weather increases for some time after the sun arrives at the southern tropic.

Though the declination of the sun southerly and northerly, is the general cause of the variation of the temperature, the effect does not immediately follow the cause. So in the summer season the hottest part of the day takes place at one or two o'clock,

after the sun culminates, the effect of his rays being more intense after his greatest altitude; and in the prime manner the evening is warmer than the morning.

To explain in the case of the poles, though considered ^{unusually} the altitude of the moon, they do not arrive at their highest elevation until sometime after she culminates.

^{analogous} facts explain why the winter is colder after the sun begins to return from the southern tropic, than when it is at that circle.

The great sweep of the circle in the zodiac over that is the circle of the tropic, and particularly south of the tropic of Cancer, is a striking circumstance; and this, connected with the short time the sun is south of the equator, (amounting to about 8 days) owing to the ellipticity of the earth's orbit, appears like eclipse in the Great Conjunction of the solar system. Now the sun being placed in the other focus of the ellipse the case would be quite less reversed, since the hemisphere with the greatest surface of land receives the least heat.

10 December

And thus it is, the more we examine
the works of nature the more we find
proofs of design & adaptation in their
structure, which ^{leads} irresistibly to
a great intelligent cause, viz.
our God.

Other considerations resulting from
an extended view of the numerous
principles of physical astronomy
carry the mind up to sublime ad-
vocations.

When we turn our view to the
lunar heavens and observe the various
planets some satellites and their mag-
nitudes; the orbits of the ^{two} latter with
their several inclinations to the ecliptic
and each other; their perturbations
from the action of the sun & the prin-
ciple of gravitation, and the various
motions they require to preserve
their motion, we can hardly
behold such order with peace & the
possibility, nay probability, of
them becoming elevated and rush-
ing into chaos. But from ^{the} recent
investigations of some of our foremost
mathematical astronomers even

can now be proved that the solar sys-
tem is a continuous whole, effu-
sely compensating for the irregu-
larities of its component inequalities
themselves, and hence it is concluded
to be permanent.

So Laplace means to include
in the important discovery, that
the inequalities involved by the
mutual action of the planets, even in
their motions themselves; and that
amid the changes which arise from
their mutual action, there are two
things which remain perfectly the
same, namely, the greater axis, or the
orbit which the planet describes,
and its period of time; so that the
mean motion of a planet, and its
mean distance, are invariable quan-
tities. The plane of the orbit, the
major axis of the ellipse, and its eccen-
tricity, are in a state of continual
change; but never by any means
the greater axis of the orbit, nor
the time of a complete revolution
in that orbit. (Newton's Philosophy).

Laplace's researches come to the
same result. He has demonstrated

December 18

that whatever be the masses of the planets, provided they move in the same direction, even in ^{just} a little inclined to each other, their secular inequalities are periodic, and confined within narrow limits; so that there is a certain motion or state of the system, about which it oscillates, but from which it never mechanically deviates.
 (See same astronomy.)

These theorems demonstrated, we may lay aside all fears of contingent disorder in the solar system, and rest assured that ^{the great machine} will continue its harmonious and admirable motions, until the Deity shall interpose miraculous interference to suspend those laws of motion. We need of such perfection who will not believe the great creator! Surely, without any hyperbole

"An indignant astronomer is made"
 Wednesday 27 Fair day; last night
 brisk wind from north, weather
 day cool.

The accounts from the President
 as to the Councils are so extra

dictory in the paper, that I should
express my remarks until they appear
in more authentic aspect.

At Buffalo or Blackrock on the Niagara
River the Americans seem to be
advancing their cause with great zeal,
under pretence of seeking the distressed
in gaining liberty. When it shall ap-
pear that the inhabitants of Canada
are opposed by the British govern-
ment, we may look at their cause &
excuse our sympathy; but let us
not forget ourselves, and rush head-
long into a war with Great Britain. Our
only tie with that nation should
be in doing the greatest good; and
for the promotion of that object no
thing is more important than pre-
serving peace and good will.

Thursday 28. Coldly, morning,
about noon snow commenced; but a
fresh fall of snow will be set.

Longueuil, Decr 20

Mr. Black of Vermont presented
a petition from that State on the
subject of slavery in the District
of Columbia, on which the following

14 December

Resolution was introduced and
passed by a vote of 122 to 74
viz. "That all memorials, petitions &
pamphlets, touching the abolition of
slavery, or the buying, selling or
transfer of slaves in any State, territo-
ry or district of the U.S. shall be laid
on the table without receiving, or
reference or printing, and that no
further action or report shall be
had thereon."

This is closing the gate effect-
ually, and by a majority of 48.
Even the members North of Mason
and Dixon's Line aligned at south
even then. Should the slave
holding states withdraw from the
Union they may be certain that
their slavery would soon come
to an end. No longer could they
lignify ^{lightly} ~~claim~~ their ~~conscience~~; and the
result of a more lecture in the two
sections need only be perished.
Can anything less than should be
continued? There must be peace!

"We have then truths to be ascertained -
evident; that all men are created
equal, that they are endowed by their
Creator with certain unalienable
rights; that among these are life, liberty
and the pursuit of happiness;
and that the blacks within the
United States, even, by the strictest
classification, More.

This being admitted, it is impossible
for us to rest at ease, while 20 million
of our fellow beings are held in
chains and subjected to the cruelty
of their assumed masters.

Our cottaging General may hold
the criminals of his Manumission
chairs but not More.

Friday 29. Cloudy most of the day
and pretty cold.

From the last account the cholera
epidemic in the Generals seem to be nearly
at an end. Two regular regiments of
British troops were expected at Quebec
about 9th of December, by the arrival
of St John River in the New Brunswick
week; and Garrison's agents are
stationed at various points on the
St. Lawrence in
In

December.

In New York City Richard H. Pratt
a Thompsonian Dr. has been tried
for killing a patient by his steering
and L. O'Brien practice, and found
guilty of manslaughter. This may
be a lesson to the foolish practitioners.
A few years ago Thompson the leader
of this imposture, was tried on the
charge of murder at Boston, and
except that he was acquitted
could not be proved; though the
evidence was clear that he killed
his patient by malpractice.
Ignorant men should be cautioned
to use only dangerous medicines.

Have a question of importance pre-
sents itself. viz. whether there should
be laws against quackery, and if so
to what extent they should go?
It would certainly be impossible
to prohibit the use of medicines
certain seasons, for many in such
cases still is held by false physi-
cians to be one of the last when prop-
erly used. Much might be said on
this subject, and perhaps the following

would be the only correct result. 17
By that our physicians before they en-
ter upon practice, should be
required to pass through a certain
course of scientific study, and render-
ing malpractice punishable.

Wednesday 30. Fine and pleasant
day - some rather scanty for slight ex-
ercise.

Thursday 31. Cloudy morning at-
tended with a gentle fall of snow, but
most of the day fair & pleasant.

This day closes the year 1837 and
commences my 73rd year. Born in 1765
in the 5th year of the reign of King
George, ^{the 3rd} I am now 72 years of age and
in pretty good state of health, my
limbs are rather enfeebled, fingers
slightly enlarged & lig somewhat dis-
torted, from a fracture which hap-
pened in the woods, by slipping
off of the junction of a stick while
moving along the road; my hearing
more impaired, so that I cannot well
catch low conversation.

Excepting my half sister, Mrs Harriet
Harrison of Guilford in the State of
New York, none of myself, my Father's
family have all deceased.

Since all our countries joined. The most
lection of the whole of our Revolution
course as that of France, is distinct
in my mind. ~~Some~~ Great changes in
political institutions as well as in the
mode of thinking, have taken place;
and, I think I may say, the world
is improving in the people. But still,
even in the most civilized parts, the
savage passions below the exchange of
which it is susceptible. I have seen
as nations, would be happier were
they less selfish, less ambitious, and more
benignant; that they esteem more
closely to the rule, "do to others as you
would have them do to us."

During my life great improvements
have been made in the arts and sciences.
Chemistry has assumed a new form,
resolving the old trinity almost wholly;
mineralogy, geology are reduced to
scientific order, and electricity, gal-
vanism and magnetism are bringing
to mind new and wonderful phenomena.
But among the instruments of
mechanism, nothing perhaps has
excelled the application of steam
power to navigate, travel, and road.

transformation, by which a ready in-
 tercourse is now had with distant parts
 of the Country, of the most important
 nature; ^{place on the} ~~consequently,~~ & ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~means~~ ^{the} ~~with the~~ ^{the} ~~intercourse~~
 thereby an opportunity is now open, every
 day by filling our ~~boats~~ ^{ships} ~~again~~ ^{with} ~~in~~ ^{the} ~~boats~~
 cargo. As regards navigation it still re-
 mains imperfect. A total accident too
 often occurs from the bursting of the boilers,
 & whether these will be fully re-
 medied remains to be seen. A great
 obnoxiousness remains, a mode of deciding
disputes between nations, without
an appeal to the sword. This, it appears
 to me, is far from impossible. Nothing
 seems to be wanting but a determination
 of the governments of the civilized nations
 of the world, that it shall be so. If im-
 possible let the government determine
 the fact, and not mere speculation.

Monday January 1st 1838

Closed of the meeting room at night

Old News Papers
 accidentally meeting with the ^{new} ~~or~~ ^{new} ~~or~~ ^{new}
 issue of the Boston News Letter, printed
 by John Draper in 1759, I have been
 much entertained. They contain details
 of the war in Germany & in America
 & particularly in the latter. I have it
 sent to my friend's care.

Leahus George & Chapman & Co. are going
in a small vessel of Mayan Rogers.
Genl. Wolff's operation before Quebec
are also included as well as Genl. Johnson
at the Vigence. To complete the file for the
year of 1755 & under he inevitably
or from them, might be obtained a good
sketch of the Proceedings for that period.
A letter from a person dated Sept 20-1759
says. The Camp is all cleared about the
Point, and as good soil as any I ever
saw, and a great many houses on it; but
none inhabited since the commencement
of the war. The old fort is of no strength
at all. There are buildings on a distance
of 4 parts, and each of them as strong
as Fort Mifflin. Major Rogers is gone
and with 200 men, towards the Heights;
and what success he may have, is yet
unknown.

In the paper Oct 26th mention is made
of the multiplicity of Beavers found in
New England; one of 350th, was killed
on the farm of Col. Quincy in Braintree,
and another on Dorchester Neck,
of about the same size. Within
a week past near 100 of these para-
sitous animals have been killed in
South Hallow, which is the country of

Stearns, some of them weighing
400 pounds. A New York account,
Oct 15, states, that 30 had been killed
within 2 weeks, within the circuit of 5
miles, about Poughkeepsie, and that they
were very plenty on the North River,
and had done much damage among
the sheep, hogs, calves, and the incline
even; and more were common
than has been known in the memory
of man. Perhaps they were driven
from the north, by the operations of
Lord's army.

An account of the Battle on the Plains
of Chancellors, Sept. 13 1759, states that Mont-
calm's army was 10,000 strong, and Wolf
about 4500; that the French advanced
in three columns joined their line, ser-
ried, flanked on the right and left by
thick woods, in which large bodies of
Canadian & Indians were posted; that the
French opened their fire at the distance of
about 50 yards, but were not returned
by the British until they approached
within 20 yards, and in 15 minutes the
French were on all sides. Montcalm was
killed on the ground; Wolf on foot, as
he was charging his men to help charge,
being squatted till the enemy gave their
line. Wolf was clapped in a gun, and

2. The total of the British army, by the
same account is stated 10,100, of which only
1,500 were on the plain in the engagement.
Part of the French army lay up the River
under St. Bourguinville, at the time of the
action; and afterwards after it ended
was drawn back by five years defence
of the Province, against the united forces
of the British and Provincial troops, con-
stantly under shift in the French officers
and bearing in the troops, both regular
and provincial.

Traveling 2. Practically cloudy in
the morning, but sun seen most of day
and a passing winter thus far
moderate.

Wednesday 3. Practically cloudy
in morning; but ^{most of} cloudy the afternoon.
From the last account from the
for Canada, it appears that the in-
surgents have not obtained any hope
of success: they have some success
in several places, one on
Stony Island in the Niagara at
short distance above the great rapids
of 700 or 800 men, with small
arms of common and better. The
same is said to be commenced by
Mr. Vane (American son of Gen. Van Rensselaer).

of Albany) is graduate of West Point.
and that he is receiving recruits from
both sides of the River, and contemplating
traveling in the Commerce with one, whom
he expects to be joined by large num-
bers of the disaffected Loyalists. I
think their plans will not succeed.
William Leitch, one of the principal
Loyalists, is with Van Rensselaer.

Early discovery of Linnæa
the Society of Northern Antiquities in Copenhagen,
have recently published, in a 4to.
Vol. of 480, Antiquities of Linnæa before Columbus
a comparison of ancient Icelandic Linnæa
relations to Linnæa, being mostly ac-
counts of voyages of discovery to this
Country made by Northerners in the
10th, 11th, 12th and 13th centuries, with
exploratory notes. By this work
it appears the coast of Labrador,
the British Islands, and even
Iceland, as far as Vinland,
which the Society suppose was the
Country called Newagunt. Benjamin
Barrow's Islands. Cape Cod and the
Islands of Vantucket and Martha's
Vineyard are supposed to be identified
since it is also supposed the voyages
extended as far north as Flouder's

24 Science
something of these accounts have long
been ^{known} but have been ^{long} supposed to be
fables; they now come in a more and
more authentic form, and I am in-
formed, are gaining belief among our
learned antiquarians. If the facts
related here be true these men must
have been considerably advanced in
arts and sciences at the time of their voy-
ages, and ~~must~~ have been in the
use of the magnetic needle, or some in-
strument of a similar nature. For
it is hardly to be supposed such ex-
traneous seas and coasts in the midst
of fog and darkness could
be so ~~been~~ traversed without something
to steer the ships (comp. p. 1260)
In the spring of 986 Eric the Red, an
exiled man, sailed to Greenland and
formed a settlement there; and in
1000 Leif the son of Eric, with a crew
of 35 men reached Vinland at the
head of Narragansett Bay, as the South
suppose, and built houses to winter
in. In 1002 Thorevald the brother
of Leif visited Vinland, where he
spent 2 years and was married by
the natives. In 1004 there sailed

sailed from Greenland to Vinland
 with 100 men, some carried out with
 domestic animals and some for the
 comfort and convenience had a colony
 and spent the winter there. In 1121
 Bishop Eric visited Vinland and
 supposed to have spent his days there.
 How came the Norwegian explorers
there without becoming of those early
 emigrants? and were ^{not} the Norwegian
horses found among the Indians at
 the first settlement of the country, by the
 English, descended from those brought
 from Greenland by the Norwegians
 1114 1007?

Severe Occurrence at Niagara.

By a handbill printed at Northampton
 on Tuesday evening, we are informed
 that last Friday night, five boats
 of British privateers captured the Niagara
 and attached an American steamer
 lying at Schlosser, 30 men on board,
 set her on fire, towed her into the shal-
 lows, which she burnt over the
 falls; only 12 of the people have
 been found. One man found dead
 on the wharf. Brigadier General
 Abercrombie at the request of the British

of the County, has ordered his Brigade
to march to Buffalo for duty.
It is since the British landed at
Albany some more cannon fired by
the insurgents on Navy Island.

Thus may bring us into collision with
the British Government. But I
can hardly believe the movement
was ordered by one of its officers,
since it may be doubted whether
the affair is correctly stated.

It is to be regretted that our people and
the Canadians are so ready to interfere
with the disturbances in the Canadas.

Thursday 4. Some rain last night
and, closely morn. - Little snow
on the ground, and closely through
the day.

Friday 5. Closely with fog most
of the day.

Last evening an Express Train Company
broke their first meeting, which are
to be continued weekly through the
winter. Mr. Hancock & Saxton di-
cussed the subject in Slavery
in which he positively condemned it
as contrary to our principles of Government.

and justified. the effects more
meeting by antislavery associations.
for its establishment.

The object of the present associ-
ation is, the promotion of useful
knowledge, without being con-
fined to any subject; the speaker
to select their themes.

Saturday 6 Fair with scattering
clouds. Last night our river broke up
and the snow on our valley and on the
neighboring hills has almost entirely dis-
appeared. Little rain has fallen, but
the snow has melted away from the
ice in the of the weather.

Sunday 7 Fair, mild and
pleasant day, resembling the Spring
season.

Monday 8 Dark cloudy &
raining morn. continued cloudy
through the day; a few flakes of
snow fell, with a cold W. wind
at night - evening clear.

Tuesday 9 Fair in the morn and
cloudy most of the day, with the
appearance of a rain or snow.

The accounts from the Niagara
River indicate a heavy snow

January

of sentiment in consequence of the
 attack on our Steam boat at Schlosser
 & Militia are called out to protect
 the American Shore. What number
 of men are lost in the boat remains
 uncertain. Gov. Head of Upper
 Canada complains of the interference
 of our frontier people and no doubt
 on good ground. It is the duty
 of our Government to look to this
 proceeding, and keep to a strict in-
 tegrity. Report says the Insurgents
 chiefly American, have captured
 Fort Malden & (uncertain) Another
 that the British forces have taken
 Navy Island - equally uncertain.

Wednesday 10. Fair with thin
 clouds. Last night the ground
 whitened with snow.

Thursday 11. Fair - last night
 cold; and the ground is left rough
 for wheel carriages.

Friday 12. Fair day with scat-
 tery clouds and pleasant.

John D. Tolson's Manuscripts.
 The New York Commercial Journal.

quodlibet in Scotland Boston Colon 29
cells, ^{that} States, this indefatigable man
from the moment of his first entrance
into public life, and until the present
time, has kept a Record of the events of
each day of his life, from that the whole
of his "life & times" now extends to 70
large quarto volumes. What a rich
introduction, he recommends, since that
work be to the future historian, the
politician, the antiquary?"

No man now living in the U.S. has
been greater of practicalities than the
Colon for collecting facts in rela-
tion to the times in which he has
lived; and his few his Records
may be useful to posterity, remains
to be seen. Whatever may have
been his opinions and conduct on
many disputed points, one thing is
certain, his records will contain
much of inestimable matter for
history. It is hoped they will not
be lost to the world in some se-
cluded corner, after his decease.

Sunday 3. Fair and pleasant
day; the sun melted the snow
almost entirely from snow.

Report of the Secretary of War
Dec^r 2 1837 - J. R. Poinsett.

Observing a ^{great} want of employment of the
topographical Engineers ^{in service} it had been
the practice of the Government to per-
mit the officers that Corps to aid
in the construction of public Works in
the several States; because the tal-
ent and knowledge which they pos-
sessed, were uncommon in our Country.
A different state of things now exists.
The demand for Civil Engineers
has exceeded them; and it is no
longer ^{possible} to civil the States & Territories
by locating them officers of the Army;
yet in so doing, an act of injus-
tice is committed towards the
Civil Engineers of the Country.

The Secretary recommends an in-
crease of the Army of the U.S to 15,000
men, which he thinks necessary
for the security of the frontiers
now extending to 8,500 miles, &
on the western border there is now
45,000 Indian warriors.

This increase of force is ab-
solutely necessary for our protection.

To rely on our present rejection of
 force to govern our parts on this sea
 and land side, looks like insanity,
 and to represent a force of 15,000 men
 as dangerous to the liberties of our coun-
 try is insanity in the highest degree.
 But Congress will not adopt the prop-
 osition; they will continue the old
 eny. militia! militia! When the Flor-
 ida war, alone, is sufficient to put to
 rest the ridiculous notion.

No. of Steam Boats on the Ohio & Missis-
 sippi in 1837 from the Report of the Med-
 ical Report on Marine Hospitals (and the
 tributary Streams)

1837 Sept. 30) Steam Boats	638
officers & hands to man them	15,950
No. of flat & keel boats &c	6,000
officers & hands to man them	30,000

Lake Erie &c.

No. of Ships, barks, schooners & sloops	300
officers & hands to man	2,100
No. of Steam Boats	42
officers & hands to man them	1,260
No. of Commerce Boats	256
officers & hands to man them	1,792

Total men 51,102

" Against Steam Boats which attract

the gaze of the amazed Indians, and the noble astonished settlers, chosen for the Ohio and Mississippi in December 1811. Until then no soul saw the report of the hunter or warriors rifle, or the woodman's axe had disturbed the solemn stillness of the primeval forest. The sovereignty of nature seemed complete. But the art of man was at work, and a revolution at hand. Steam boats increased; forests were felled; cities and towns, and farms were peopled their places, and the tenants of the woods fled before an interfering, incursions and thinning population.

Thursday 14. Bore, with three clouds and wind. At evening cloudy.

Monday 15. Fair Day & mild.

Last night a little fall of rain; once more not a flake of snow on our valley; another proof that the position of the sun is not the sole cause of the temperature of the climate. Must we look to some terrestrial heat to explain the phenomenon

Tuesday 16 Fair and fine
 day - S.W. wind but moderate.

By the Greenfield Paper of this day we
 have Geo Everett's message dated July 9th.
 Besides the usual matter it contains
 much in relation to Benches; but no
 very important project, one pointed
 out. The latest news from the Vi-
 ctoria frontier, is January 4th at which
 time the insurgent still remained on
 a very bold. The State of New York has
 made a demand on Genl. Van Rensselaer
 to deliver the ordinance and arms, be-
 longing to that State; but the Genl. refuses.

Our Governor's message mentions
 the "impaired efficiency" of the
 militia. How impaired? We have
 the usual number of men enrolled
 and their discipline is nothing
 and always ^{was} nothing. There is
 much further reform. May we
 be preserved from a restoration of
 the old system.

Wednesday 17 Cloudy morning;
 Sun appears about noon; but dou-
 -bly & soon rain in the afternoon
 & at night. Day warm.

Thursday & this day a meeting

of abolitionists was held at Granville
to discuss the subject of Slavery at which
a number of Gentlemen from a distance
attended, among whom was a Mr
Stanton seemed to be an impressive orator.
The meeting produced a considerable
excitement among certain charac-
ters, and elicited sentiments from a
few which I have supposed could
not be found in England. Strange
as it may appear we have among
us men who unequivocally approve
of Slavery in the abstract. These men
ought to have noticed at Algiers
jeunions to its conquest by the
French, when they might have
tasted the secrets of the system of
Slavery as it prevailed among that
people.

The report given to me by
many among us, during the late struggle
with that order, had lessened my esteem
for them, and taught me there ~~was~~^{is}
not so much rectitude in the country
as I had supposed. Some of the same
men seem now to be disposed to add
another negative quantity to their value.

Thursday 18. Foggy morn; 35
few more of the day; and the air
almost as warm as a common summer
day.

Dr Williams who has just returned
from Utica in the State of N York, in-
forms me he saw at Albany a new Gen
etion of that State, a large 800 Vol. with
a map of the State and one of each
County, in addition to the distribution
of each town's price of Dollars. a
valuable work. By - Gordon

He is president many scientific so-
cieties, established in various places
he visits, as flourishing, with fine
collections of Books. In many towns
it is the practice of the people to
form associations and attend evening
lectures on interesting subjects. This
indicates a state of improvement
which I am grateful to hear.

Remember the commander of the
Canadian Insurgents at Navy Island,
is represented as a man of no
great respectability. He will pro-
bably soon be compelled to leave
the Island from want of pro-
visions for his men. His hopes
there will be the result of no
understanding with the Government.

Friday 19. Cloudy & foggy & a little rain in the morning, & heavy part of day.

From the meetings of Congress it appears that the Southern members are much excited at the numerous resolutions introduced, in relation to the abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia. The Speaker has offered a number of resolutions in the Senate, connected with the subject, and much debate has been had.

Threats of a Division of the States are thrown out, and I think, probably as this might be to the advantage of the Union, it may take place some day later.

The plan, probably, of the slave-holding States, is to annex Texas to the Union, and to combine the Southern and S W States, and then form a new union. This would be an unfortunate event. A line of fortifications would be erected on the line of separation, strong standing armies would be raised by each government and frequent wars would ensue. But I think that

would ultimately destroy slavery
in the ^{southern} confederacy.

The slaves would constantly be
choating to the northern confeder-
acy, whom they would be fond
to see, and imitation of course
take place, and of ~~course~~ ^{necessity} would
follow; but in this case the balance
weighs would be on the side of the
northern confederacy. In case of
an invasion of the South, the
slaves might easily be engaged against
their masters; and if furnished
with arms and officers, they would
be a force formidable. With 2 1/2
millions of these disaffected people,
in conjunction with the northern
army, it need not be the gift of a
genius to predict the result. Slavery
would come to an end, and the
Southern Union must last a
few years at most. If the Southern
people are awake to their true in-
terest, they will see this danger. But
like their climate they are of a hot
temperament, and governed in a
way that prevents reflection.

The question now is whether the
northern people, from fear of a civil
war, will surrender to the Southern, or
insist on maintaining the rights of all
according to the spirit of our Government.

Saturday 20 Fair, clear & cool.
Last night strong frost, wind cold
cold; the ground once more frozen

A Letter from Robert Williams Boston
informs that he had received one from
my son Arthur, dated December 20th
stating that he and his wife were well.
He sends an advertisement to the Com-
mission to engage Contractors on the Rail
Roads in Illinois.

The New York courier states that
the Canadian (or rather American) In-
surgents still hold Navy Island; that
the British militia cannot be per-
suaded to attack the Island, and that a
body of Insurgents were expected to
arrive from the interior in aid of
Oreog's force. The latter not very
likely to be true

Sunday 21 Cloudy, warm, & most
of the day the sky overcast with thin
clouds; calm. No snow on the ground.

Monday 22. Fair & clear with
hazy atmosphere, wind cool.

Tuesday 23. Fair, clear & settling
Cloudy, but cold. Ground still in
a moderate

Last

Last evening we have a Lecture
 from Mr. Hespworth on Colonization,
 illustrated by a recitation of ex-
 periments very successfully performed.
 The lecture was an introduction to
 a course he proposes to deliver, if
 he can obtain a sufficient class,
 at 50 cents a head; five lectures
 to complete the course. Whether
 he will meet with sufficient en-
 couragement is a little doubtful.
 In order to write an interest in-
 subjects of this kind, a scientific taste
 must exist, and unfortunately this
 taste is not general among a majority
 of our young people. Many of
 them, it is true, read, but their Books
 are of the light sort - the prevailing
 error of the times. In general lectures
 are directed to the passions rather than
 the reason, and upheld by a majority.
 Hence the declamatory speaker receives
 more applause than the reasoning one;
 the former is the best for an excitement,
 the latter to regulate the judgment.
 The first may be wild and even dan-
 gerous, the other regulates, refines
 and calms the mind.

Wednesday 24 Spring clear, & bright
Sun - no snow.

Accounts from the court say that
Sir Ranselau has a handsome Navy
Island, and his men have discovered
land like most of the accounts we have
seen, it comes in a doubtful manner.

America discovered in the North
Country: By Charles C. Rafre, Secretary
to the Royal Society of Natural
Sciences Copenhagen

A pamphlet with this title has
just been published in New-York.

Containing among other matters
an abstract of the Evidence (Historical)
contained in the "Antiquitates
Americanae" account of several
voyages from Greenland and Ice
Land to the Coast of the United States
and given, and particularly to those
of Hapsham, & Orkney Islands
and the Wine Islands

The voyages are said to have been
made between 906 and 1347, the last
45 years before Columbus's discovery
of America. If we may believe
the accounts, the Norsemen were
ever acquainted with the whole

coast of the United States, long before the first voyage of Columbus when the Society must be able to establish their Entire Columbian History of America, is to be seen. They have numerous members on various points of Europe as well as in America, and are throwing out extensive publications on the subject. From what has been published it seems the Maritime Museum, traversed the Atlantic Ocean in various directions, with as much facility (nearly) as at the present day, and yet it does not suppose that they were in the use of the magnetic needle, or have a correct knowledge of the sphericity of the Earth, or the modes of determining Latitude and Longitude; and it would be strange if Ship building was then brought to much perfection. They must have been, have known something of the art; and in 994 the King of Denmark sent money imported England with a great many more of course they must have had ships suitable for the transportation of the Goods. See page 23 for a notice of the subject.

Thursday 25 Cloudy & foggy
more. In the afternoon fair with
a pleasant Sun.

Friday 26 Rainy and foggy more.
Afternoon fair & pleasant, resembling
a spring day. To behold the ground
entirely free from snow, soft and mud-
dy, at this season is well indeed;
and cannot but elicit inquiries as
to the cause of the transference of
the seasons; once I am more and
more inclined to believe we must
seek it in the internal fire in the
earth, which earthquakes and volca-
nos, I think, serve to stir.

Saturday 27. Fair more - after-
noon cloudy & a dash of snow at
evening

Sunday 28 Sun shone in the
morning, but soon cloudy

Last night a rapid snow fell to
the depth of 6 inches, once winter
once more appears its wonted face.
To me the snow was unexpected, as the
clouds were rather clear and a fog
hung upon the mountains.

Monday 29. Chilly and fair & B
ultimately: some small - strong wind
last night.

Tuesday 30 Fair and cold with
westerly wind. Lofthamphrey colts
have come Practitioners respecting
the existence of Indigenous Interd.
but never, in New-England.

Book with this title is just from
the Boston Press, by Dr. Oliver Wendell
Holmes; and contains much ex-
tensive matter in relation to the early
diseases of New-England.

In the medical and Surg. Memoirs
of Dr. Nathan Smith he has
stated that "An Connecticut Oliver
from Northampton in Massachusetts,
to its source, a distance of more than 200
miles from North to South, and on all
its turbulency streams, on both sides,
for 100 miles in width, there has been
~~no~~ no instance of any person's having
contracted the intermittent fever,
from the first settlement of the country
to the present time".

Dr. Holmes has collected many facts
in relation to this point, and proved
manifestly that Dr. Smith is unde-
r a great error. But no place in

New England has been so liable to the
fever and ague as the Country on the How
columb River in the lower part of Berks
shire County, and I believe some cases
are still found there. Hatfield and
Deerfield it appears were formerly
liable to it; but at no time of my
life have I seen an indigenous case in
this town. Places in New England
much North of our Latitude, especially
on Lake Champlain seem to have
been exempted from the disease.

But in the western Country it prevails
further North. Would it not be
found an accumulation ⁱⁿ the Countries
which abound in clay and lime on
the surface, that these fevers are more
prevalent than in those where
the soils are sandy? This seems to be
the case but whether the former soils
have any tendency to produce fe-
vers I know not.

According to the theory of Dr Lave-
rie (see Sketch. Booke N^o 5. p 90)
the macerates of marshy Countries
absorb, or lessen, the oxygen of the
atmosphere and thereby render
it unhealthy. I know not. Then the

clay and lime when it colours (15)
effect the colour of the in this way?
chemistry may afford an answer to
the question.

Wednesday 31. Fair and pretty
cold winter weather. What a con-
trast between this and the weather
for 20 days past, and how shall we
account for this difference?

Thursday February 1st Fair ^{morning} and
common winter weather - Afternoon
cloudy

Friday 2. Fair day and rather
more moderate.

A gentleman by the name of Asa
Hairbanks from Providence R.I. and
called on me requesting aid in the
anti-slavery cause, by taking the New
York Emancipator, or lending me
money. He appeared to be well informed
but I could not give him the
required aid, money being an article
that does not flow into my lock-
et. He offered no vouchers of his ap-
pointment as an agent in the cause
but I have no reason to doubt of
his honesty. But in all cases of
this kind some vouchers are im-
portant.

Saturday 3 - Cloudy most of the day & sunshine occasionally.

Mr John Hewes put into my hands the Journal of his Grandfather Col. John Hewes, kept on the route from Fort Massachusetts to Montreal & Quebec, after his expedition with the French commenced at Fort Map.

The number of men in the fort is stated at 22 and 3 women and 6 children of which 11 ^{men} are stated as sick. Another account I have makes the whole N^o 33.

The money are stated at 65 french and Indians. The fort invested August 19 1745 (should be 1746).

The 21st we set out for Canada, the french helping the sick and wounded. Most of us arrived this day at Vanclovich's place: this night Reel died, and Mrs Smee was delivered of a daughter and was mighty well.

22. The Doctor (the Chaplain) baptised Smee's child; then we set forward, carrying Mrs Smee & child. Scott's wife & two children; the Indians carrying in the canoe. At church and Penny's wife (wines) went down the river all day, and at

might better in health than 49
when we left the fort.
(Note the River mentioned must be the
Hoosuck.)

23 Left the River and travelled; horses provided for the women. Their
clients were very kind to the sick.
(Note. The point where they left the
River probably was Hoosuck Falls.)

24th Cold day. We set forward, crossed a
River (probably Boston Hill) and arrived
at the head of a small stream that runs
into the dangerous Lenois and lay by
~~by this creek~~^{at it}. Part of the day was rainy
and we were wet through, yet health good.

(Note The stream noticed was, probably
a branch of Perceps River in Helen or
of Greenville.)

The route from the Hoosuck this place
must have been through White Lenois
Countryside and Seaborn)

25th Travelled north very a small
distance and lay by 2 ponds

26. Set forward and travelled till
about 12 o'clock and came to the
Lenois. Our sick were provided
in better health than when we set
out. We refreshed ourselves with
what they had. I was troubled with
cough and hoarseness, but 2 o'clock

40 February
set sail, and there was great joy;
and that night lay by the side of the
Lake. That night Inuklu. Amalik's
son had his thigh broken by the force
of a blow & 2 men wounded.

(Note The water passage must have
been on Peavot River to the present
town of Whitehall, where they lodged
"by the Lake")

27th The embarkment and sailing towards
Green Point was commenced at 12 o'clock
(probably P.M.); the ice was better in
places than when we started from
the fort.

28th Stayed at Green Point this
night - very cold.

29th Continued cold and stormy

30th Stayed at the Point and
was met with all the kindness
that I could ^{expect} wish

31 at Green Point and had liberty
of wandering together. This day
some Indians brought 6 seals
and a capture of seal - his name
Samsuk Whelan, a very kind man
of mine

Sept. 1. Stayed at Green Point

2nd I proceeded with the gunners

to send into the fort for Samuel &
Allen, who gave me an account of his
father, being killed and Gillet and
Amoel, which was a great grief to me.
I interested with the gentlemen to
redeem us from the Indians; but
did not succeed. They told me I need
not be concerned about him and
that he should not remain long with
them.

3^d Turned at Leavenworth point.

4th - Canoe 12 blacks set out for Mont
real, (left Allen). at night lay by
the Lake

5th Rained, and we lay still.

6th Set forward in most a quiet way;
at night we were on shore and hailed
some party they were killed; and
about 12 at night seized the rest of
the party.

7th Being Lords day, about 12 whites
came to Chamberlain; where I was nobly
treated by the Dote, interpreter of
the French, and lodged at his house.

8th we set out with Canoes down
the River; we laid short night at
the mouth of Chamberlain River, part
of the day, rainy and cold.

5th of the month blue. We set out
for maritime came over the River
to the lower end of Montrose Island.
10th Came up to Maritime and met
with the 1st Duc de La Corne who had the
care of me

11th Stayed at Maritime. M La Corne
ordered his horses and Chair and
received me before the Governor and
Company. He and chair with
him, since he showed me all the kind-
ness that I could possibly expect,
and got such things as was necessary
for me.

(Note. M La Corne was an officer
in the Expedition and captain of
the fort, once had the command
change of Sergeant Heiron's, during
the month June to Maritime. And
the French acknowledged his kind-
ness of him during the time he was
with him. The character of this of-
ficer has been represented in a very
different light by most who knew
him in the year of 1755; and in
the map of the fort William Henry
he is represented as eating the secret
of a savage. He then commanded
the Indians. Perhaps the repre-
sentation has been too true with

injunctive which our officers had 57
acquainted in the case of 17th in which
in some cases on active service.
It is qualifying to me to find that
he was not exactly the Senaius-lead-
er that has been represented by history
^{which account}
~~which account~~ against General Bungeye, who he
accompanied to Fort Lorne, he took
a decided part in the movements of
that officer at Senaius, and even
displayed some military skill.)
12th After we had dined and smoked
a pipe, he came to see me in his chair-
man carried me down to the latter
and we sailed for Quilichin in a pa-
ny with the Yactan, and other persons
and their families.
13th Sailed with a fair wind and
arrived at San Simon, where we
the Governor.
14th The day, sailed on day and
at night of the night and was
continuously entertained.
15th Arrived at Quilichin, was examined
by the Governor and Lord Lieutenant
and accompanied to the Pensioner house
where we made the N^o 105. Here
we had the liberty of worshipping
together, the Yactan and myself

Sept 18

52 were sent into the Laosation Room
with many other Gentlemen prisoners.
The Lunch provisions were so hard
for the Victims as to send him such
suffering as was necessary; and other
evils were everywhere. They sent
him shirts, handkerchiefs, caps, a
pair of breeches and stockings.

23^d Other prisoners came into the
prison.

24th Early there were prisoners taken
at Sea joined them.

24th Sunday four more prisoners
joined them. The men who re-
mained with the Indians were ship
board of their clothes.

Since the present stops, and it
does not appear in what man-
ner the Deaths were repaired
During his stay at Bristol. He
kept a journal of the deaths among
the prisoners, from which it appears
that eleven to the 24th of May
1746 (1747) had been killed. The
place seems to have been very likely to
kill people. The cause of this
is not apparent. Whether the
people are surprised, or whether

connecting to Self. Hence, justice
 the prisoners in Canada were treated
 with more humanity by the French
 than at the time of Reg. John Williams
captivity in 1704. It may be that
 the William Book, published so an
 after his return, had ~~been~~ found
 its way to that Province, and been
 used by the Chergy there, and taught
 them the error of their policy. Mr.
Williams it is probable would have
 met with less severity had he been a
 little more philable and dispassionate
 of religious rites, which are now dim
 of his imprudence than he had sup-
 posed. By such a course he might
 have embellished the French Colony
 and still retained all the essentials
 of his religion. ^{In Dutch, Indian, Esquimaux &}
^{Native Languages} Page 127

January 4 I am with heavy
 clouds & very cold.

One of our "rigidly" methodists, other
 clare methodists, sent me, containing
 the Rev. Arthur Dickinson's
Notional Preacher containing two
 sermons by the Rev. Dr. Gouffier, one
 on the worth of the soul, the other
 on the knowledge of God. It has object

549 Holiness.
was to convert me to his system, I think
he might have made a better choice.
A few extracts will show the nature
of Dr. Griffin's philosophy. In them
"What must have been the valuation
of the soul in Heaven, when that
God, before whom all nations
are as the dust of the balance, became
an infant in the manger of Beth-
lehem, sweat blood in Gethsemane,
was beaten and spit upon in the
judgment hall, and crucified on the
ragged cross." 3. Cryer:

"The son of God would
not have given his life to redeem
the whole material universe from
ruin. He would not have shed
a drop of his blood to save this
world with all its corruption from
the flames. He will give it to the
poor who turn it over to the soul
of sinners. shall be crucified, and
yet the Redeemer his blood to save
the soul."

Veil for the shape. Nature is
"Glorious and Holy." "Glorious and

smooth, good and angels, and good
men are engaged to deliver the soul.
And this is not all; There is in no
time to oppose its deliverance.
Myriads of principatities & powers
are engaged against it. 'How great
must be the value of the soul,' says
one, 'when three worlds are thus
contending for it. Would three worlds
Satan, thus contend for this little
particle of dust called the soul? No!
But they will contend for the soul
of man'. - Again. 'What then shall
we think of the soul? that for which
angels, the angel bands come flying
from above'?'

In the Sermon on the knowledge
of God, we find the following:
"When we can perceive God to be
so holy, and glorious that a being
wicked to love him, would deserve
eternal woe, and that no conceivable
punishment is great enough for the
wretch that claims rebel against him;
when with spiritual discernment
we contemplate God turning the
angels out of heaven for sin, turning
Eden out of Eden, turning a
beautiful world into a prison

26
house of groans, a shambles of blood,
turning millions into hell, and
murdering them all, thrusting his sword
through the heart of his son; then
we discover, in a light unknown,
before what sin obscures and what
we are; and lifting a pleading
eye to Jesus, we lay ourselves down
in the dust to worship at the path-
less and mercy of God."

Once more "Lord ^{he} have he (the Jew)
that ^{principle} what to some may seem a
servile, that is a sense of guilt
and beatitude from heaven much
of the happiness of heaven would
be beatitude with it" Romans

Thence not that Dr. Griffin
was subject to turns of insanity;
but it is ^{his} hope where he was not
in a sane mind when he delivered
some if not all, of these incoherent
and blasphemous expressions:
Since this man has been Peri-
cleat at Willowbrook College!

If the Rev. Mr. Dehrens is chosen
to promote the cause of Christianity
by diffusing his Metaphysical Principles
- in the most coarse his language

In selections, and give us some-
thing calculated to the reason of
perverted beings, instead of ~~the~~^{the}
~~education~~. A more consistent
Theology is rare in the novels.
and thinking men will no longer
suffer themselves to be abused
by the ~~poor~~^{man} which ~~the~~^{promoter} zeal has
covered the merits of those who
take religious opinions upon the
ipse dixit of thin sanctified
spiritual guides, claiming to be
commissioned from heaven.

From a note given on the
cover of this (V^o 1 of 12 Vol.) it is seen
that Dickinson has transferred the
editorship of the works from the
editorship of the 12 Vol. to the
Rev. Dr. H. H. H. of the City of N.Y.
but with Dr. H. H. H., continues the
editor; perhaps jointly with the Rev.
Dr. H. H. H. of the City of N.Y.
and a lot of clay
from the City of N.Y. Good selection. See
of Dickinson from a note given
on the cover of the 12 Vol.

Free clay. Fine sun shining clay
since pretty cold, though some change
coming from the east.

58. February.

Wednesday. Fair morn, the lat-
ter part of the day cloudy.
Thursday 8. Cloudy morn. Last
night about 2 inches of snow fell.
Classes continued through the day
and the weather melted.

a Militia in General Court.

Some friends of Representatives Kelly
5th declared that the Committee on
the Militia inquire into the expedi-
ency of repealing the 125 Section of
the Revised Statutes, of the militia
Law. &c

This section makes provision for
paying the light companies &c for
their services in training.

Under the present condition of those
companies, the payment for their
services is in fact ^{merely} a useless expen-
diture. The time they are required
to duty is altogether insufficient for
any improvement in discipline,
and the organization is very de-
fective, and ^{the} numbers equally so.
What is the object of the order to
out a Co. Probably to restore the
old system of training the whole
when

59

which cannot consistently be done with-
out force, so long as a just one prevails.
A refusal of the section would undoubt-
edly destroy the voluntary companies,
and perhaps this would be a good
step towards a better system; and a
revival of the old training would
have the same effect. On the whole
no matter how soon the whole of
the present system falls; for it is
worthless. Someone might then be
employed. But this must be done
by Congress, if at all.

Another order proposes to repeal
the 5th to help of the Statute, which pro-
vides bounty for killing certain
mammals. No matter how
soon this be done; for the Statute
is useless, if not to others.

Friday. 6 to 8 o'clock morning - rain in
afternoon - not very cold.

A Letter from my son Arthur, to
Greenham Hoyt, dated Peoria Illinois
Jan'y 20. 1838. States that he is about
to enter 2000 acres of first rate
land (prairie and timber) and he
intends to divide it into farms from
80 to 320 acres each. He holds the
land at 5 dollars the acre. A

Idemary.

a Village will be Fortified and the
Country will fill up fast he says!

The tract I suppose in the County of
Shelby - is nearly in the centre of the
State, & probably on one of the Rail
roads to be constructed by the State.

The County enclosing Pecks Gazette
town, contains a large amount of
excellent land, both timber and prai-
rie, and is one of the best inland
Agricultural counties in the State;
It covers on Sengerman County
is 36 by 30 = 1080 square miles. It
is watered by the Washakie and
its tributaries.

Shelbyville is the County town -
has 6 stores - 3 groceries - a brick Court
house 40 feet square & 2 stores, with a
cellar and 40 or 50 families; the
country round excellent land, a
mixture of timber and prairie,
and the streams are extensive.
A sulphur spring in the town.

The timber in Sengerman County
oaks of various species, walnut, sugar ma-
ple, elm, linden, Hickory, ash, haw-
berry, honey locust, mulberry, Sycamore,
cotton wood, Osage &c. and various
shrubs common to the country.

The Mackinac River passes through the
Mackinac County; is situated to be 100
miles in length following its meandering
(which it appears to me cannot be correct)
an extensive body of timber lands from
10 to 12 miles wide in some places along the
stream, generally of a good quality. The
bottoms on the River from half a mile
to 2 or 3 miles in width, subject to inun-
dation in high floods. The Legislature
has granted 50,000 dollars to improve
the navigation of the River. The chief
obstacles are low, sand banks, &
shoal lands. A steam ^{ship} has ad-
vanced to Canby 215 ^{miles} by water above
its mouth.

Bituminous Coal is said to be
found in the County in good quan-
tities by excavation, and even in
the quarries without excavation.

The County, I think, will make
a fine agricultural region for farmers;
but as the Mackinac is a very
small and very important and so
shut out with shoals, the navigation
may not be good because transport
ation will probably be on the
Great Lakes, to be carried by the
State.

64 ^{in many}
summer houses, and cultivation, or
the corns are reeled out. This situa-
tion, I think, is not the most eligible
one that might have been chosen.
The winter the winds from the local
country are not so much tedious
and the place disagreeable in the ex-
treme. The County of McHenry —
24 miles wide, lies between Bloom County
and Lake Michigan.

We may now soon look for sci-
ence from the County of Blackhawk.
Would not prosperous farms be
justifiable, until the County is older?
Common schools should first be es-
tablished in a new County, and then
colleges and universities of course.

Sunday 11 Fine & cold moon
as severe as any we have had
this winter. Soon clouded up and
snow fell most of the day (moderately)

My Daughter Isabella writes me from Boston, that
the Rev. Dr. Hamilton has declined & excused to the
invitation, of the Massachusetts Synod. She writes
the institution was never more flourishing,
and speaks the language of her husband. That a man
who has ruined any of them here, should
preach in this temple is not strange to me
I think the more.

Contents

	Page
Canadian Insurrection	1
Accident on a Railroad, with remarks	2
Winter Solstice with remarks	3
Canadian Insurrection Report of	6
Population of the Canadas	7
Effect of the Sun's Declination	8
of the Preminency of the Solar System	10
Congress Proceedings Dec ^r 20	13
Conviction of a Thompsonian Dec ^r	16
Close of the year, 1837	17
Old News-Papers for 1759	19
Canada Insurgent. again	22
Peery's Discourses in New England	23
Seniors occurrence at Niagara	25
John Q. Adams' Manuscripts	28
Report of the Secretary of War	30
Steam Boat on the western water	31
Governor's Message	33
Congress Proceedings	36
Key on the Discovery of America	40
by the Mar. the more	41
Dr. Halmer an intermittent fever in England	42
Col. Menck's Journal to Quebec	46
Dr. Griffins Sermons	53
Shelby County, Illinois	59
New College in Illinois	63
Masonry still alive at Boston	64

Sketch Book No 10

From February 11th 1838
To March 5th 1838

Part 2

Note The pages in the former part, should be numbered on records from 65 to 82; these pages commencing at the beginning of No 10. Part 1,

The "Progress of Settlements" &c was delivered before an association in this town, in the evening of the of . at their request with a counter part from page 136 to page 149, inclusive, &c.

63

Of the Progress of Settlements
within the U. States, subsequent to
the French war, which ended in
1763.

During the ^{French} war which commenced in
1755, and terminated, in the Northern
Provinces, in 1760, though it continued
in Europe to 1763, ^{and} the settlements were
no farther advanced than at its com-
mencement. At that period the prin-
cipal part of Maine, the northernly
part of New Hampshire, nearly the
whole of Vermont, the northern and
western part of New York, the west-
ern part of Pennsylvania Maryland,
Virginia and ^{the} Southern States; and
all the Country west, except a few
old French settlements in Indiana
Illinois, & Missouri, and ^{about} a few forts
in those regions, was a vast uncul-
tivated wilderness, over which the
natives ~~travels~~ roamed at large in
pursuit of the game which abounded
in every part.

At that time our knowledge of the
Geography of the country was very
limited; and the little known was

2
derived principally from the Jesuits
and other ^{early} French adventurers ~~and~~
~~travellers~~, and a few fur traders
who had established stations, in
various places, for carrying on their
traffic with the Indians.

Soon after the peace of 1763, Capt
Jonathan Carver, an enterprising
officer, who had served in the war,
penetrated to the Mississippi, and some
distance up the St Pierre, reporting
into the former from the NW; and
in his journal, published in England
gave further information of the country,
but few settlements were then made
beyond the limits of 1763.

~~From that period~~ The ~~very~~ recent
travels of Lewis & Clark, Pike, School-
craft, and Long, have furnished more
accurate information, and the geo-
graphy of the country over which they
traveled is now better known.

From ^{the year of} 1783 to the present time,
swarms of emigrants from the old
States, as well as from Europe,
have penetrated ^{from west} the western re-
gions; and the war whoops of

The savage has now given place
to the source of the ~~the~~ ^{the} civilized
~~is the~~ ^{of the songs} lowering of the hinds of civilized men.

The Indian war which commenced in 1790 and was terminated by Genl. Wayne's army on the banks of the Maumee in 1794, retarded the progress of settlements for some time; and the British war of 1812, was a further obstruction.

Since ~~that time~~ ^{the lapse of time}, nothing has occurred
of a formidable nature, to prevent an
extension, even to the Rocky Moun-
tains; and the progress has been
rapid. Not only the States east of the
Mississippi, but Missouri, Arkansas
and ~~Mississippi~~ ^{plains} on the west, are filled
or are fast filling with inhabitants:
and all this achievement in the wilder-
ness, the work of about 50 years, dating
from the year of 1783 - Wonderful
progress! Astonishing effort of human
~~industry~~ ^{enterprise}!

The toil and retirements of the French
war of 1755, and ~~for some years~~ ^{many years} ~~gone~~, and
their memory nearly extinguished from
the present busy race, now reaping the
fruits of their ^{perduance} ~~fructification~~ labors: and
History but faintly "Bells

"Tells the sad tale of glory gone;
of valor sleeping dark and lone."

But let us suppose one of these, still
living ~~and~~ retaining his mental faculties,
^{and} to commence a reconnaissance over the
country which he had passed in his
adventurous expeditions, while it was
wild and waste, and the spirit was
whoop of the Savage ^{shout of their} ~~echoed~~ from hill
to hill, through the deep gloom of
the interminable forest. I will sup-
pose him one of the Rangers of the cel-
ebrated corps of Major Rogers, who
traversed the western ^{about 1760} country, in the
recesses of Genl Amherst, in 1760.

Taking his departure from Albany
the old head quarters of the Army, then
the residence of the plotting Dutchman
and seated in the ^{qually in the sharp} ~~rapid~~ ^{current} ~~car~~ ^{in a short}
how he is at Schenectady, another
old station; but its improvements, &
improvements, and the grand canal
stretching off to the west, confuse his
remembrance, and but for a few Dutch
houses, with their sharp peaked
roofs, his recollections of the place would
have been lost.

Leaving ^{Schenectady} ~~this place~~ and proceeding up

the morrow, his recollections revive,
and numerous associations rush upon
his mind. The riffs and rippling waves
of the stream, remind him of his tug
at the setting pole and oar of the slow
encircling battos. Many places where
a few rude cottages were clustered within
slight stockades meet his eye, now con-
verted into sprucely villages and ele-
gant mansions, the echo of peace
come plenty. Fort Hunter, ^{Johnson Hall} and Conajo-
bury are recollected.

Further up the river he recognizes the
little falls and the rocky portage, over
which the battos and baggage were
transported on the backs of the men,
and further on the extensive German
flats, now presenting handsome villages,
the old frontier in the Grumbeere
and principal station of the British
and colonial forces on the river. Of the
old forts nothing but their sites are
seen, and they with difficulty traced.

Pursuing his route up the ~~river~~ he
looks for the interminable forest where
the shuffling savage was found at
every mile, and every thick eye
with ^{anxiety} ~~anxiety~~; but it had disappeared;

immense farms and houses are
seen along the banks of the river, indicating
wealth and domestic happiness.

On the left a superb cluster of towering
buildings meet his eye. It is the city
of Utica! where formerly stood fort
Schuyler, in a deep of the woods. The scene
is so like enchantment, and he is
again confounded. With wonder he
views the ~~city~~ ^{extensive} streets, and continuous brick
buildings ~~and stores~~, which present
in every direction; where naught but a
thick forest was formerly seen.

Proceeding onwards he passes Whites-
borough on Sackett's creek, another
enchanted ~~place~~ village, unknown
in former times; and at length finds
himself at the old crossing place, be-
tween the Mohawk and Wood creek.
Here again, instead of surrounding
woods, he sees, open fields & a handsome
village: It is Rome! He seeks for the
little fort that stood at the landing;
but it is gone. As he again steps
he reaches fort Stanwix, on the mar-
gine of a beautiful meadow, which
he recognizes as the play of many
of his toils and adventures - the

scenes of Col. St Leger's operations at
the time of Genl. Burgoyne's invasion, in
1777. Thence he hastens his steps across
the portage to the site of Fort Bull, sur-
prised and taken ^{by} the French and In-
dians in 1756, and the principal part
of the garrison barbarously massacred.

The old Indian route across wood-
land through Oneida Lake to Fort
Brewerton, and thence down Ononda-
go River to Oswego, the scene of many
of his adventures, are fresh in his mem-
ory. But his route is in a different direction.

The Country of the Six Nations, an
extensive region of woods, rivers and
lakes, in the year of 1755, is now to be
passed on the route to Niagara; and our
old veteran anticipates a wild country
destitute of civilization. But see! Along
the road, scattered houses, pleasant vil-
lages and conspicuous towers, presenting
not only indications of ~~social~~ civil happi-
ness, but a high degree of wealth, team-
ing with a numerous population of
civilized men.

At Onondago, he seeks for the an-
cient Capital of the Six Nations, where
oratory, rude but powerful, was

8
displeased, at the Council fires, and the
affairs of the nation regulated. A num-
ber of the Indians was there; but
not the Seneca chiefs of former times.
They had lost their ancient supremacy,
the effects of interfering rule man-
ners and customs with civilized re-
form. On the first intercourse
with the early settlers of New-York
this part of the Country is said to
have been the seat of a vast popula-
tion, once a "blast of the horn", on Onan-
dago Hill, would assemble 2000
warriors for the battle.

~~Proclaiming our old relation~~
~~is established at the following the valley~~
~~of Onondago~~
~~one~~ our veteran seeks for the old
salt spring at which the hunter sea-
soned his venison and feasted on the
labors of the chase. But what does
he find? A thick settled village; its
cleared fields, and busy workmen.
It is Salina! on the margin of Onon-
dago Lake, on which one floated
the invading ^{French} army of Count Fronte-
nac. But Gervangula and his
chiefs are not there. "They had
received their fall"; and their

sons, forgetting their heroic ~~deeds~~ ^{deeds}, have
become a fugitive band.

Proceeding west our old soldier is aston-
ished at the appearance of farms,
houses and villages ~~everywhere~~ ^{on every side}, ~~which~~ ^{the} ~~rich~~ ^{rich} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~some~~ ^{some} ~~spacious~~ ^{spacious} ~~fields~~ ^{fields} ~~spread~~ ^{spread} ~~before~~ ^{before} ~~him~~ ^{him}.

He pauses at Embury's clustered
houses - its State Prison and its ele-
gance excite his wonder; the old
Cayuga Castle; the adjacent Lakes,
and plying canoes remind him of
"olden times". Passing Cayuga Lake, a few miles
bring him to.

The glittering Seneca ~~Lake~~ ^{is not}
~~in view~~, and ~~the~~ ^{the} old veteran glances
his eye to the western shore to de-
cry Canaadago, the ancient Seneca
town; but a crowded and superb
village ~~appears~~ ^{appears}. It is Canaadago
in the midst of a populous region &
rich farms. A small distance north
he finds the old Indian Castle, with
its surrounding orchards, the thrifty
shoots of the apple trees, cut down
by Genl. Sullivan's army in 1779.
It was once the seat of a powerful tribe
of Indians, renowned in the history
of the Senecas.

Onward

10
Onward the Country continues equally
fertile, to Canandaigua, a beautiful
town at the northern extremity of a
lake of that name, both retaining the
Indian appellation; but in the place
of the rude cabin of the native, the
village presents with elegance & taste
~~and~~ the abode of a ~~refined~~ ^{refined} commu-
nity.

Continuing west to Genesee River
the surpassing of our old land is not ~~exceeding~~.
Elegant houses, villages and wide spread-
ing farms line the way on every side;
and the fertile flats on the River, the
former scene of Indian enjoyment, but of
barbarians cruelly to prisoners, is now
wreath. The horrible sufferings of Boyd,
one of Sullivan's Captains, at Big Tree,
remind him of similar scenes ~~which~~
~~that have occurred~~ ^{which have occurred}
~~repeated~~ in the old campaigns on
our frontiers.

From Genesee River to Buffalo the
Country though more recently settled
presents a chain of farms & villages,
indicating industry and ~~prosperity~~ ^{prosperity}
~~But since~~ ^{at a distance} the place of a recent
event, claiming to the reputation
of a recent Society, ^{publicly} claiming to be

men of the surrounding country
were principals or correspondents

ounded on principles of benevolence.
and occult science, the ~~most~~ ^{most} fruitful
source of ^{deep} misfortune, being the most
noted. But let not the respectable
reputation of the inhabitants be charged
with ~~the~~ ^{the} misdeeds, while hundreds
of the surrounding country were ~~at~~
~~principals or accessories.~~

approaching Niagara River which
our ~~old~~ ^{old} friend had traversed under
Major Rogers in 1760, interesting scenes
open upon his recollection. On the
river below, fasts Niagara, Scholier, and
the grand cataract; ~~and~~ to the west
the ~~expansive~~ ^{broader} ~~Lake~~ ^{Exp}, stretching far away
between wooded shores, limited only
by the sky; - the ^{old} camping ground
at the outlet, covered with woods;
all were present in retrospection, &
he hastens forward. But what does
he see? A city with its towering ~~buildings~~,
extending up and down the River;
its lighthouse and crowded shipping
at the ^{shipping} wharves; the firm of many
multitudes; the ^{port} ^{army} settlements on the
British side, and the ponderous
steam boat in rapid motion ^{on the Lake}, with
a scud or oar! All is enchantment.

and he thinks for a moment, that he is entering some populous sea port on the Atlantic border ^{in fact} of Buffalo.

On board of one of the floating mills, belching fire and smoke, he proceeds up Lake Erie to Presque Isle, and lands at the old fort.

A few points of land stretching into the lake, ~~are seen on the passage~~ ^{seen on the passage} ~~are~~ ^{are} recollected, once a few intervening bays, where the locations of his party had landed and the men encamped. But in many places the woods had pulled back, and thinly farms and clustered villages are now and then seen along the shore, where nayest but tangled forests once met his eye. He had now passed the gigantic State of New York with its millions of inhabitants.

The site of the old fort at Presque Isle landing, is recollected. But a handsome village ^{groups} ~~is~~ ^{is} in the sight of the old veteran! What is this? Have the lofty forests changed to spruce and mansion houses? His Erie! a flourishing town in Pennsylvania, the site of one of the

old evidence of French facts, extending
down the Allegheny to Ohio River, at
Fort du Rousseau.
An extensive ^{work} ~~fort~~ had been erected on
the peninsula, during the late Indian
wars; and here, at the foot of the flag
staff, the remains of the gallant Genl
Wayne were deposited; and afterward
taken up, by his son, and ~~conveyed~~ ^{conveyed} to
Chester County in Pennsylvania.

From Erie to the mouth of Cuyahoga
River, scattered farms and villages
are often in view, where nothing
but dense forests are recollected by
the old traveller. At this place his re-
collections were distinct, and here he
had met a tribe of Indians on his
old expedition. But what was his
surprise when the same stones and
rocks along the river banks, and
a large cluster of houses on the elevated
plain to the east. Cleveland he is
informed is the name of the ^{new} town.
Situated in the State of Ohio which
now embraces upwards of 937,000
inhabitants - at the time of his former
visit, a vast forest, without a
civilised inhabitant, through the

mouthful part of which he passed
with the Major Rogers on his march from
Detroit to Pittsburgh in 1760, with no
other guide than ^{the} compass, subsisting
on the abundant game found in
the woods. What a change! Is it
all a dream!

Leaving Chautauque, the country
west to the entrance of Detroit River,
presented many settlements and
farm houses, seen through openings
in the woods, the humble residence
of the peaceful immigrant.

At Sandwich Bay, a town was
laid out, and fast filling with
houses and inhabitants; and
another at the falls of the Maumee
River, where ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{old gold} had passed it,
on his route with Major Rogers.

The country of the haughty Pontiac, the
Plat of the west, is now to be traversed.
At the mouth of Detroit River, our kind
had seen the powerful chief, in
his glory. Like Dunrommett in
Ottawa. "Contempt contracted his
face - a smile on his dark brown
cheek; his red eye rolled, half cov-
ered beneath his shaggy brows".

His bossy shield is on his side, his spear like the
~~tip of the lance, half concealed be-~~
~~hind the shield.~~ ^{the} But he
is gone, and his tribes have shod
led to a public race, no longer
directed by ^{the} population spread
over his country.

Reproaching Detroit, the old French
fields and other features of 1760,
are fresh in the memory of the old
men; and he pointed out the
sites of bloody contests, with the
clinging chief, in which he had
shared. At length landing at a
spacious wharf, he ascended the ~~high~~
lofty bank. But what does he
see? Not the humble French village
of 1760, but a city, with crowded
houses, public and private,
extended streets, and a busy people.
The Capital of ^{the State of} Michigan, ^{which} now con-
tains a population of, at least,
31,000 civilized people.

The old fort which so long resisted
the attacks and stratagems of Pan-
tiae, was gone. On the British
side of the River settlements are
seen along the bank, closer to
Fort Maitland the work of modern

16

immemorially
memorable from the abortive
invasion of the unfortunate Gen. Hull.
Detroit being, the extreme western
post, our old soldier had visited
in his excursions under Major Rog-
ers, and believing that he had reached
nearly ^{to} the present confines of En-
glish settlements, he resolved to
suspend further progress, and
to rely on geographical informa-
tion from travellers who had per-
etrated the country further west.

On enquiring for the old post of
Michilimackinac, Vincennes and
Kaskaskia, he is informed that
an American garrison is ~~still~~
kept at the former, ^{now on an enlarged island} and that the
two latter are ~~now~~ ^{in the aggregate} included
within two extensive States, fast
filling with inhabitants, and now
containing ^{in the aggregate} a population of at least
500,000 civilised people; - that the
country south of the Ohio and
west of the Mississippi, is parcelled
out into several States, filling
with inhabitants; - that three
large States and territories,
spread over the country west

17
of the Mississippi, the northern of
which, mispouni, extending up the
River of that name, towards the
rocky mountains, contains 140,000
people; and that the former slow
emeticious boat navigation on
the Mississippi, had given place
to that of the rapide steam boat; by
which large towns and cities in the
new world carry on an extensive
trade with New Orleans, and other
distant places on the Rivers. Astounded
at the information he had received, our
hero ~~shrank~~ ^{from} further inquiries;
and the ^{mythological} story he had heard from
classical geographers, of the creation of
a new world by Deucalion and
Pyrrha, was no longer deemed
a fable.

With increased wonder and ad-
miration, at the progress he beheld
and the information received ~~from~~
~~others~~, our old veteran returned to
his paternal Hamlet, with the cheering
reflection, that if the war in which
he had spent his youthful days,
had not directly produced this flour-
ishing state of the western world, it

10.
have, in effect, been instrumental
in preparing the way for our inde-
pendence, which have produced the
wonderful change in ^{England} ~~England~~ "the
~~east shall rejoice and blossom as the~~
~~rose~~"; and that by a wise use
of the means Providence has placed
in our hands, we may become ^{not only} a great,
~~but~~ ^{powerful} people; and ^{the west will} ~~the~~ ^{east} shall
rejoice and blossom as the rose".

These reflections present to the
statistical philosopher important
considerations on the future pros-
pects of our country, and the effects
of a wide spread population,
on our confederacy.

Once extending his view to future
times, he predicted, that by a
due use of the means Providence
had put into our hands, we may
become a powerful people, ex-
tending from the Atlantic to the
Pacific; and aided by the im-
migrating arts of agriculture
and science, "the east shall
rejoice and blossom as the rose";
and posterity, purified, ^{tempered} ~~tempered~~
and ^{enlightened} ~~enlightened~~

82
and happy people
and a ~~happy~~ people, sitting in
clover their ^{own} vines and fig trees,
and none to make them afraid.

The remarks and reflections of
our war worn veterans, present to
the statistical philosopher, important
considerations on the future pros-
pects of our Country; and the effects
of a wide spread population,
on our confederacy.

Note
In Sketch Book, Vol. page 136,
the foregoing subject has been
taken up; but here amended
and enlarged for the purpose of de-
livering before an association in the
town. It extends in that Vol. from
page 136 to 149. to A in 149 page

February - 1838

Monday 12. Fair and cold morn.
yesterday snow about 1 inch. Windy afternoon.

Model of Laying out ^{out} lands in New State
as adopted by Government.

All tracts are to be limited by meridi-
ans or parallels of Latitudes, so that the
lines may be renewed when lost, with-
out the uncertainty of the needle.

In Illinois two principal meridian

83. ^{Trilobary} one traced; one from the mouth
of the Ohio river, through the mill
creek, the other from the mouth of
Illinois river north into Wisconsin
to be made a standard for survey
in that territory. Towns are laid
into ranges by meridians, and recon-
cel from them east or west. A base
line is then fixed at some point on
a meridian, from which the town-
ships are numbered north or south;
this base is, or ought to be, a line of
latitude. In describing ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~range~~
it would be in such a range and
such a number, on the east or west
of the meridian, and north or south
of a base. Thus 3 East and 4 North
or 4 West and 6 South. Then it is ne-
cessary to name the meridian &
base.

This seems to be a good method
of laying out a country and must
prevent much subsequent disputes
concerning land boundaries; and
I can perceive but one difficulty
in it. When the survey is com-
menced on a base and meridian
and run, there will be a conver-

84
on the north end a divergence
South; and of course a difference will
be found in their ends, but this
deviation from parallelism will be
small except in great distances, and
the differences in the ends may be cal-
culated.

A Town is here 6 miles square, and
divided in ¹⁰ sections, or square miles
of 360 acres; and if these are divided
it is by meridians; some subdivided
by parallels. &c. For the
~~formation~~ of these surveys, the principal
meridians and lines should be care-
fully traced by a transit instrument
and ~~exactly~~ preserved.

The convergence of the meridians
may be determined by the following theorem
Co. S. of Lat.: Co. S. of another Lat.: the
length of any arch on the first Lat. in
miles: length of the same arch on the
other in miles.

When the convergence is small the Log.
arithms will in the calculation shew
itself to more figures than can
be read.

Example.
Then. Co S. Lat 39: Co S. Lat 42.30 :: 6 : 5, 692
Diff. 2,300 = 24 4/5 links. = convergence.

85 The Sections in a town are
numbered from the NE angle and
to NW; thence back to the east; and
thence to the west, alternatingly, ending
at the SE angle; and No 16 is ^{usually} reserved
for schools in the town &
ships.

Nothing can be more definite than
the following. Section 8. T. 6 N. R. 4 E.
of such a munition. and thus
the term may be described in a
clear and a few words.

The towns are not corporate bo-
dies like those in New England; but
lawing is transacted in each County
by County Commissioners and others
appointed by them, including super-
visors of roads &c.

Route 1.
The most direct route to the Central
point of Illinois from Deepford, is by Alba-
ny, Utica, Canandaigua, Baitance
to Buffalo; thence through Lake Erie
to Maumee Bay and up to Perrystrough
to the foot of the rapids; thence on
the ~~main~~ ^{lower} and "Wabash Canal to
Logansport, ^{or Fayetteville} and thence South westerly
into Illinois. The whole distance is
about 1000 miles to Perry in the County
of ~~Jefferson~~.

The Maumee and Wabash Canal is not yet completed, but in prospect. I will carry a family to the central part of Illinois. I would procure a strong wagon and suitable horses, and proceed by Land to Buffalo; then on Board a Steam Boat to Perrysburg, ^{on Maumee river,} for horses sending my horses by Land to that place; then on the Maumee Canal to Logansport, ^{or Fayetteville} or some other place on the upper Wabash; then proceed by Land. — Route 2.

Or the whole might be put on Board a freight boat etc may, or opposite, and proceed to Buffalo; then by Steam Boat to Perrysburg & the canal as before described. This would be a rather expensive nearly the whole route. The whole journey I think might be made within 14 days, and the cheapest possible route (for the value of the cargo). By furnishing his own provisions on the route, the emigrant would lessen his expense.

Note. The journey should be made in the autumn (September and October) when the roads are dry & provisions and forage plenty.

Thursday 13 - Coldly + more -
Afternoon Snow.

Letter coming received from my Son
Arthur a pamphlet containing an ab-
stract of the proceedings of the Board
of Commissioners of Public Works
of the State of ~~the State~~ of Illinois,
(December Session 1837) from which
it appears that Surveyors have been employed
in various parts of the State the past
year for Railways.

Reports were inserted from a Memo-
rial of Engineers, and contract awarded
of \$264,000 for the year 1838.

Arthur is styled Principal En-
gineer for the Eastern Engineering
District.

In a Report to Genl. W. H. Carpenter
Commissioner of the District, he says,
"From Paines to Charleston, 27 miles,
the line is straight; and as the grade
descends from Paines to the Embury
creek, and ascends again to
Charleston, a telescope at either
extremity will command a con-
stant view of the entire road
between the two points - an ad-
vantage which but few roads possess."

He makes an estimate of the construction of the roads he has surveyed during the season, from which it appears that the cost per mile (on an average) will be about (at a maximum)

\$9737.89: including Bridges &c.
\$4100.29, the minimum.

These estimates must necessarily be exceedingly uncertain.

Illinois in her zeal for improvements, has projected works much beyond her present complete present, as it appears to me.

The canal from the River Illinois to Lake Michigan should be her first object, as opening trade with the other Lakes and Atlantic States; and when her surface is overspread with well cultivated farms, her rail roads may be commenced, but upon a limited scale. By her present career there is danger of contracting a debt which will press severely upon the landed interest of the state, and thereby retard its settlement. which I would be an unfortunate circumstance. A rail road from the foot of the Wabash canal SW to the Illinois seems to be all that is now required.

29 February - Wednesday 14 Variation of Needle

Fair snow - Snow from yesterday, and
last night say 2 inches - Clear day.

Observed Variation of Needle at Chertsey

M. N. R. Wild of West. Winchester
N.H. in a Letter Feby 5-1838, sends
me the variation of the magnetic
needle, taken by his Father at Chert-
seyfield N.H. as follows.

1812	6. 21 W	1824	6. 40 W
- 13	6. 25	25	6. 35
- 14	6. 17	26	6. 35
- 15	6. 7	27	6. 45
- 16	6. 3	28	6. 52
- 17	6. 2	29	7. 00
- 18	6. 0	30	7. 04
- 19	6. 3	31	7. 10
- 20	6. 0	32	7. 15
- 21	6. 7	33	7. 30
- 22	6. 12	34	7. 35
- 23	6. 30	35	7. 45

The above, he says, are mean vari-
ations averaged from many trials
in each year.

At St Johnsburg Vt. last July
he found the variation 12. 40 and
at Boston Vt 10. 51.

From these results it appears

90

Variations of Needle
The needle changed its motion from east
to west, in 1820 or 1821, about 80 years af-
ter the time I found it changed; viz 1812.
He does not state the methods used
in determining the variations, nor what
sort of an instrument was used.

The results of the years 1816 to 1820 in-
clusive, are rather anomalous, and
must I think have been affected by
the diurnal variation; and it is
singular that the variation should
decrease ^{very} at Chertfield and Deer-
field. In 1812 I made it $5^{\circ} 28'$ and the
Wild $6^{\circ} 26'$. The ~~same year~~ ^{year 1811} Professor
Wilkins found it $6^{\circ} 05'$ Rutland Vt.
In 1818 the Wild makes it 6° and in
1820 the same; in 1819 = $6^{\circ} 3'$. It is not
to be supposed the needle had such
a vibration, back and forth, other
than by the diurnal variation.

Without a careful attention to
this diurnal variation, the motion of
the needle in consecutive years may
not be detected; and whether
Mr Wild regarded it I am not
informed. The time (1812) I think
is connected to the period of the
change at Deerfield. M

91. Mr. Wilds variation for 1835 is
7° 45' to which add 12' my quantity
for 2 years = 7° 57', agreeing very
closely with the variation at New
field in 1837.

If Professor Williams variation
at Portland in 1811 = 6° 01' was
correct, Mr. Wilds at Longfield
in 1812 = 6° 26', must be too great.

In order to determine what confidence
is due to Mr. Wilds observations, it is
necessary to know in what manner they
were made, the instruments used, his
method of reading off the angle,
and all the connecting circumstan-
ces.

Thursday 15. Blandly and snowy
morning. About 10 A.M. some came
out - (Snow = 12 inches) Afternoon
cloudy.

Note I have sent some blanks in
the Bostonian of the Free Press
and Advocate, Boston, my paper
is, not found in the Bundle for New
field this week. I have a receipt
for March 1st 1838 for the paper.

There must be some carelessness
in the business, unpardonable
if it happens ever more than once.

Friday 16. Cloudy morn. Some snow
last night. Snow storm afternoon &
some night. Winter now seems in
earnest.

In the midst of the storm I saw a man
leading a poor jaded horse, harnessed to
a wagon in which was a woman & a
little child; they past on into our
south meadow and whether they found
quarters at night I know not. The
sight of such objects hurrows up my
feelings and disturbs my repose.

Shall we say this misery is the
order of Providence? I think not.
Neither I should say a want of
regard to the order of Providence.
By a clear exercise of common
sense, which runs straight through
the hindrances of Providence, such mis-
ery may be avoided. If we stop and
from all rules of justice, and we let
expect a miraculous interposition to
relieve us? Animals without the
gift of reason seem to be fitted to their
condition once they obtain subsistence in
all climates; but if man is not so favored
it is because he has reason given him
by which he can take care of himself. But

But the little ones, in this case, are sufferers without any agency of their own. Is this then the order of Providence? By no means. It is through the inclination of the parent that he is answerable for this inclination, in the same way he would be for leaving his child without cover in a cold winter night, or by directing it to walk on the surface of deep water, by which common sense must have been unwisely perished.

Providence offers the elements of subsistence, and man under the guidance of reason uses them, and whether for good or evil, depends on his disposition.

Let us not then impute to Providence the sufferings which we experience from our own inclination.

This is too often the ~~cause~~ ^{source} of unreasonable men, and should be checked by our moral lectures.

February 17. A fine day. - Snow fell yesterday & last night about 4 inches, and we now have about 14 inches of snow, on our average.

94

Last month on the 14th, and several
days after, was a flock of geese on
the ground and the weather warm.
Of the cause of these variations we
can give no ~~very~~ satisfactory account.
It is conjecture founded on hypothe-
sis. Predictions from the position &
phases of the moon are no better; nor
can any thing ^{be} predicted from those
of the planets, as has been put in doubt.
Perhaps if we fully understood all
the laws of Chemistry, some clue to
prediction on the weather, might be
obtained. But such knowledge is
probably beyond the power of man.

In natural philosophy, by long ob-
servation, we learn a few of what
we call laws of nature, and that
like causes produce like effects;
but the cause of causes is another
question. We know that a heavy
body projected into the atmosphere
will fall back to the earth by a power
we call gravity; but what is
this gravity we cannot say; and
so we know that a magnet will attract
iron, but have ^{known} no cause. Yet though we
cannot explain this attraction, by a known
cause

95. Edmund
Sledge of the Law, use many apply
it to many useful purposes. Dr
Franklin, in talking upon gravity
said that though he knew not what
it was, to save his china from break-
ing he knew he must place it up
on a shelf, instead of the circle which
surrounded him; and perhaps
this was the most useful know-
ledge that could be learned con-
cerning it.

Then, though man is a limited being -
he is capable of high improvement
by a close use of the powers given
him

"Then say not, Man is imperfect, having in fact;
"Say rather man is as perfect as he ought;
"His knowledge measured to his state & place,
"His time a moment, and a point his space!"

Sunday 18. - A cold & cold more
and clear day

Monday 19. - A fine morning, and
cold but bright. West wind.

Wrote a letter to N. B. Willet of
West Winchester N. H. on the re-
vision of the needle, in answer to
one from him (see page 99) and
touched upon various subjects.

Gave him my rule for computing variations on old sunnys. viz.

Up to 1812 compute the variation from elcote of sunny, at the rate of 3 minutes per year; the variation to elcote increasing; from 1812 compute it at the rate of 6 minutes ^{per year} increasing. I place the change of motion in the needle from east to west, in 1812.

For a suggestion of the cause of this change, see page 151, in 10th Vol. Eclis. Encyclopaedia. Variation taken principally from Professor Hansteen's works, on the Magnetism of the Earth. 1819 in

Tuesday 20. Fair & cold. Last night blustering & drifting.

As night the storm the stupor raked,
 Poor laborer sweet in sleep was laced,
 While towns & w' snarey wreaths up choked,
 Wild eddying swirl,
 Be though the miriny outlet backed
 Bawled headlong huml."

Oh ye! who, sunk in beds of down,
 See not a want but what yourselves create,
 Think for a moment, on his wretched fate,
 Whom friends and fortune quite disown.

7
" All satisfied here neither claim nor
stretch'd on his share. He lays himself
to sleep,
While thro' the rugged & rocky way,
Chill o'er his shoulders like the shifting
Mists.
Mists.

Some of these unfortunate people are
seen in our neighborhood. We call
them shiftless, and improvident. They
are so in many instances. But do we
make due allowance for their circum-
stances? There are no doubt poor from
mismanagement, others from a want
of industry or a spirit of enterprise.

In this Country where land, especially
in the western Country, may be obtained
at a cheap rate, it would seem that
all might find a comfortable support.
But many who would avail them-
selves of this resource, are unable
to remove their families to distant
regions, and they remain where
they were born and heavily sub-
sist. Some if they are not inces-
sant, nor willing to labor they must
be poor let them reside where they
may. They are however entitled
to our commiseration. The

The wise man while he strives to rise above poverty, looks not to great riches, but contents himself with the blessed mean. If riches offer an easy turn they are not to be rejected but they cannot to be sought with great eagerness, and restless anxiety. When this disposition visits the moral sense is apt to be overcome and an honorable standing in society is lost; but extreme poverty is perhaps more dangerous. The crimes which are charged upon those of cupidity, and if more crimes are found among the poor than the rich, it is no certain proof that the former are more depraved than the latter. Many a rich man if reduced to poverty would prove a rogue, and many a poor man if raised to riches would at least, endeavor to be honest. Let all then endeavor to obtain a competency, by honest and industrious means.

State of Indiana.

In looking over the Geography of the western States as given in books we notice a want of arrangement in

the descriptions particularly such as are received by those who are about to migrate from New-England. Mr Peck has given a pretty full account of Illinois in the last edition of his Gazetteer; but so rapid are the settlements making there that another edition will soon be wanting. The accounts of Indiana were very defective, though I am informed a Gazetteer of that State has recently been published: but it has not met my eye.

In a Report of Capt Ogden to Gen. G. Grant Chief Engineer, published in the documents of the Secretary of War at the opening of the present Session of Congress, we have some valuable accounts of the surface of the Country of Indiana lying on the Cumberland or National Road now under construction.

It seems Capt Ogden has the charge of the road from the east line of Indiana to Vandalia in Illinois. He states in Report Some Facts, vol. 19th 1838. The following are a few extracts:

1888

The face of the Country bordering on the road from the Ohio State line to the mouth of White River, about 20 miles, is undulating & rolling; thence to Indianapolis 52 miles, the face of the Country is generally level, consisting principally of beech flats, which, while wild, were wet, even marshy.

The undulating ground was composed of a succession of hills and valleys, covered with a growth of black walnut, sugar tree, poplar & white oaks. The soil is very productive, a rich loam, mixed with sand and clay, when dry firm but when wet very muddy.

The beech flats are divided into, higher and lower, and on this division of the road, nearly in equal proportions, about 1/2 of the distance. The higher flats, a white clay and tenacious clay, left adapted to the purpose of grazing; the lower flats, dark rich and loose in wet weather very muddy. The ^{lower} ~~lower~~ are called black meadows and black slacks.

From the road from Indianapolis to Allen State line - 76 miles, the undulating ground, largely forested with and the beech flats & slacks are no longer common.

For 30 miles west of Indianapolis, the country is rich and level, the growth sugar tree, black walnut, poplar, white oak and beech. Soil well adapted to cultivation. liable to be. some wet, & turny muddy.

From Illinois the country generally unimproved, the growth white oak, buck and poplar, & tolerably unimproved, well adapted for grazing on the whole the country is mostly composed of level prairie, exceedingly fertile.

Stalk neither scarce on the soil. Boulders are found in the country in other places, sometimes on the surface and sometimes imbedded in the earth, a species of granite very hard. Good building stone not to be found more than 30 miles from Indianapolis."

Indiana is more covered with woods than Illinois, and probably more moist. The valley of the Wabash is very fertile, and contains a vast area of good land, supposed equal in fertility to the Connecticut River meadows.

Wednesday 21. A very much cloudy
day with much wind and pretty
cold. Aztalan

A series of letters are now published
in the Greenfield paper signed
E. L. Smith by Dr. E. Saffinger of
Montague, containing notices of the
Wisconsin territory and Illinois
made during a tour last summer.
The author visited the ruins of the
Aztalan ^{city} as it has been called
about 60 miles west of Milwaukee
on Greeno Fork Creek, a branch of
Rock River. He corroborates the
accounts hitherto given, and has
procured specimens of bricks & ce-
ment found in the place.

I had concluded that the previous
accounts were fabrications. But the
Dr. is a gentleman of veracity who
would not readily prostitute his
character by a false statement.

Why do we not have more
of these ruins? A critical examina-
tion should be made of the place
and every minute published in
our literary journals. The discovery
may throw light on the first peopling
of America.

of the new town of Milwaukee.

It is situated on the River and bay of the same name (Milwaukee) and must become one of the best harbors on the Lake (Michigan). The principal part of the town is about a mile from the mouth of the river. Two years last June I am told there was but one frame house in the place; now there are between three & four hundred. There is a handsome Court house, several fine Hotels, a large number of stone and many very respectable private dwellings. The principal streets are handsomely graded, and the whole has the appearance of a city and wealth. It cannot be said of recalling any place on this Lake with the exception of Chicago.

About 2 miles from the Ruins of Aztalan, one says, have been discovered indisputable proofs of the remains of an ancient brick yard. I am the description given it would appear the area of the ^{city} ~~place~~ is about 20 acres. See San Antonio, Texas 82.

Admitting the existence of such ruins, who can doubt that our western country has been overspread with a race of men much advanced of our present Indians; at least as far advanced as were the Mexicans at the conquest of Cortes.

Recently, some of our geological writers have attempted to show that the remains found in our western country are vertical formations by diluvial action. That they infer from their stratified structure, lying horizontally, and suppose them formed either by sinking up, or they are remnants of tertiary formations that have been mostly removed by rains, floods, and deluges.

If this is in fact their structure, the inference would appear rational: but if the accounts given from various examinations may be relied on, this is not the structure of the whole; the blocks of rock are often found in them, arranged in the most regular order, like the radii of a circle with their feet at the center, placed there over time without the least confusion. But if

the mounds in which these Coelios are found still show the horizontal strata. Fractures in the strata where they have not ^{been} disturbed, the existence of the Coelios is not conclusive proof that they are artificial. The mounds may have been selected for cemeteries, since the Coelios occur in this regular order. But where this stratification does not exist since the earth is known to be so much mixed, the artificial structure is more probable; since if such a race of men once existed in the western country, as the ruins of Egypt can indicate, it is highly probable that they were the constructors of the mounds of the last description. A more thorough examination of the mounds seems to be necessary to decide the question.

Dr Smith of Boston, in late Lecture on the ancient tumuli of America supposed they were built for the following purposes.

- 1st As temples - high places of worship.
- 2^d As observatories, for astronomical observations.
- 3^d As Burial-grounds -

4th As Justifications.

The Dr states that he should, at a lecture lecture, enter into proof that the man who built them, understood astronomy.

Robert he may say under the 1st. I come forth heads, we know not; but on the 2^d we think he will not be able to advance any thing very satisfactory. Should the Dr. be able to prove that, like the pyramids of Egypt, the sides of the ^{quadrilateral} mounds are exactly adapted to the four cardinal points it will furnish but little evidence of a knowledge of astronomy: For it is likely that the rude nations of all northern countries are aware, that the north pole star is at or near the north point of the heavens; they may not however know that it has a small ^{apparent} rotation round that point, in 24 hours, though their rude observations might teach them ^{even} this fact. Without graduated instruments one time keepers little more could be learned of astronomy.

107
Thursday 22 Four Days.
cold cold morning but somewhat
milder of the day.

Death of Osceola a chief

This celebrated Seminole chief
had been previously captured by
Genl Joseph and confined at Fort
Mifflin on Sullivan's Island, in the
harbour of Charleston, with several
other Indians. On the night of the 26
of January he was attacked with a
violent quincy. Drs. Trevelyan and Stro-
bel visited him and offered their
services to relieve him. He was bled
and an emetic and blister presented;
but an Indian entering the room,
who was held in esteem as prophet
and a doctor, Osceola refused to take
anything from the physicians, unless
the prophet consented; who seated
on the floor covered up with his blanket
et, with all the air and dignity of
a great man, refused every assis-
tance of the physicians. They
proposed to scourgify the tumors
and apply leeches, but the prophet
said no! All pursuit was in-
vener once the physicians were com-

100

permitted to leave the Chief to his fate,
and he soon died.

Dr. Strobel expressed his opinion,
that he might have been cured
had he submitted to the surgical
treatment.

From the favorable character given
of this enlightened chief it is hardly to
be supposed that he had full faith
in his prophet, and none in the phy-
sicians; but it is probable he entertained
suspicions of the honesty of the latter.
His perfidious capture was certainly
calculated to create such suspicions.
When Dr. Strobel entered the room the
chief was lying on his blanket before
the fire, his head propped up, and
two Indian women, one on each side,
were employed in bathing his neck
with warm water, in which some
herbs had been steeped; but the prophet,
it seems, trusted wholly to his in-
cantations.

What is man without a know-
ledge of the arts and sciences?
Little advanced above the brute
of the fable, and in some respects
more inferior.

109 February.
Friday 23. Ice in road please
can't deny. British Troops
The paper announce that 800 (British
troops ordered from Halifax to Comander
were of days without a house or shelter,
travelling on snow shoes, and that 41
of the number died and many others
were much frozen. The route is not
mentioned; but no doubt it was by
St John's River. It is not to be
believe that the whole were furnished
with snow shoes, or that they could
travel on them. A few party on horse
could beat down a sufficient road
for the main body. But their bivouac
must have been dangerous, and none
but troops habituated to such service could
sustain it, without many casualties.
Before such a march was commenced
the hardy armen of New Brunswick
should have constructed brush huts,
of humlocks, fir boughs, etc short deep
marches, and cut and collect
fuel for fires. A sufficient num-
ber of these small camps might
have enabled the troops to have
performed the march with safety.
our Regiment at a time. Procopian

might have been carried at the back, and drawn on hand sledges by the men. A few Canadian horses with suitable forage, might have been useful.

Our men of Russian Cossacks would have thought such a march by no means difficult. Sir Robert Wilson says that after Bering's retreat from Dolanc in 1804, the Russian Cossacks continued in the field 3 months, during the winter, ^{the horses} and suffered chiefly on the old thatch stripped from the roofs of the cottages of the peasants; and in the year of 1755, in this Country, Major Rogers' Corps of Rangers was often out in the woods for several days in the deepest snows of winter, and sustained the service without the loss of a man. A peace of 20 years has probably reduced the British troops of America, and many would be young men who have seen no hard service in the field.

One or two campfollowers in Canada will steel the nerves of all who can bear the snows, and render them as formidable as in the last war.

Saturday 24 Fair in morning; then
clouds afternoon and a flash of snow.
Geological Summary of the State
of New-York.

At the Session of the Legislature
of that State in 1836, an act was pas-
sed providing for a Geological Survey
of the State, under the direction of the
Governor, and the following
plan ^{is} adopted for its execution.
The Botanical department is com-
mitted to the charge of Dr John Torrey
The Zoological to Dr James E.
De Kay

The mineralogical and Chemi-
cal to Dr Lewis C. Beck.

For the Geological department
the State is divided into 4 Divisions
or Districts.

The first is committed to the
charge William W. Mather
The second to Prof. E. Emmons
The third to Dr A. L. Silliman
The fourth to Dr Oliver
Barneum.

Each of the gentlemen is a resident
an assistant or assistant, as their re-
sidence may require.

In February 1887 Governor Thayer communicated to the Legislature ~~the~~ ^{the} names of the gentlemen employed, accompanying Reports of the geographers made in the several Departments, which are printed in a pamphlet of 212 pages. From the Reports it appears that considerable progress has been made, and that an extended report is to be prepared, as soon as the work is completed.

A mountain called Whitcomb in the easterly part of Essex County, is found to be 4,855 feet above the level of the sea, as determined by the Barometer by Professor Emmons; and several other ^{still} higher in the same quarter. The surveys will approximate to the height of the White Mountains of New-Hampshire.

The country comprising the north easterly part of the State is found to be abundant in iron ore. Boz Magnesian oxide of iron:

2. Specimen of ^{of iron} oxide of iron.
3. Bog iron ore

The northern ^{easterly} part of the State Prof. Emmons, thinks, will become

is moving elixir, and not present
many persons are waiting only to be
convinced of the prospect of success,
to engage ^{intensively} in this branch
of national industry.

In the central nucleus of Esopus, the
Professor says, this whole elevated
region is traversed with dikes of
Greenstone; their width is not
usually more than a foot, but in
places they are from an inch to
10 feet. The discovery he says, ^{that} of dikes
in granite or gneiss, though not
entirely new, is one of interest in the
practical geology.

All the reports are written with
ability, and evince knowledge of
the subject in which they are en-
gaged. The gentlemen of each dis-
trict seem to have power to conduct
the researches upon their own plan;
and as the science of Geology is not
precisely settled, may there not be
found some diversity in their future
reports, from following different
theories, which will be encourag-
ing in making up the final general
Report for publication? None

Note. From the Reports that have been made, it does not appear that any extensive beds of fossil coal are found within the State.

The Rossie Lead mine is described as a vein traversing a rock much like gneiss in its general character; the width about 4 feet and continues, varying in thickness, between 30 & 40 rods. Not sufficient lead has been raised to meet the expense of its location; and Professor Common thinks it will not be productive.

Of the origin of metallic veins by injection from below, the Vanuxem expresses his doubts. He says that the only satisfactory way of accounting for their origin, is by segregation and lateral infiltration, the metallic and other minerals having been furnished by the rock which encloses the veins.

The doctrine of injection was Werner's, and I believe also Hutton's. It is more generally exploded. See Baker's Geology page 274, Hitchcock's Report of the Geology of Massachusetts page 520 and other late writers.

115 Sunday 25 Train Day.

The weather for sometime has been
faintly cold, steady & good winter
weather; the winds are low rising
it difficult to erect cattle.

Monday 26. Train Day with
scattering clouds.

In a Letter from my Son Arthur
dated at Paris Illinois July 3^d 1838,
to his sister Isabella at Boston, he
states that the winter there has been
very mild, having had but three
inches of snow in the whole. But he
says the winds that sometimes
blow from the Rocky mountains
come the North Pole, sweep over the
precipices with a velocity and heav-
iness almost incredible. Indeed (he
says) I think the same latitude here
is more tedious than in New England
But I look on even these precursors
in the winter, in the summer they
are most beautiful. He gives
the following description of

A Prairie.

Imagine a country as rich in
soil as Deerfield meadows, open
and level, or gently rising for about

116
a mile to the height of 20 feet, and
again descending to the common level
as far as the eye can reach, resembling
the light long rolling waves of the
ocean, without a single hut or hu-
man being within 50 miles of you; and
here & there a scattered grove of the
deepest green, some which are fre-
quently seen, herds of deer grazing un-
conscious of danger; — thousands of
of half wild cattle scattered in every
direction, and herds of horses almost
as wild as those encountered by the
Gepard in his lone desert ride.

"With flowing tail, and flying mane,
wide nostrils — never checked by pain.
"Noughts blood to the bit or rein:
"With every inch of the ground covered
and with thick grass or weeds about
ce

a foot in height, and carpeted
 with flowers of every hue and size,
 from the violet to the sun flower,
 and you have a faint idea of a
 prairie in the summer. When night
 approaches and the way soon dark-
 ens is caught on this wild scene
 he is saluted by the melodious voice
 of what he supposes at least a hundred
 and who are within 20 feet of him;
 and here perhaps there ^{are} no more than
 one or two, and they a mile distant
 next. Often have I heard them howl
 round or trot or waggon, when
 I would have sworn there was a
 hundred within ten rods of me;
 but those better acquainted would pro-
 nounce them two or three, and they
 half a mile distant.

But

But after a person has travelled over
these prairies as much as I have, he
will long for mountain scenery, and
with Mayeysa say:
"What booteth it to traverse o'er
Plain, forest, river, then our brutes,
The clint of hoof, nor print of foot,
Lay in the wild unpeopled soil:
No sign of house, none of trail.
The very air was mute.
And not an insect shrill small from
The master bird's new voice was heard
From bush or thicket?"

There long he may remain in Illinois
he cannot say; but with a poet in
the Louisville journal he expresses
"I heard thee, valley of the west,
For what you yet shall be!
I heard thee, for the hopes that rest
Upon thy closing.
But O! there is a land afar
Whose shores to me are brighter far
Along the Atlantic shore!"

Here appear some breasting
after the plane of his nativity: The
monotonous aspect of the prairies be-
comes tiresome, and the rugged hills
and mountains of New-England seem

to propose locations of which those who
decide among them are not conscious.
Does this proceed from habit and
quantitative propensities, or are broken
countries in reality more beautiful
than those that are champaign?
Bring an inhabitant ~~from~~ ^{from} a
lowly spot in the cotton to the former,
and would he not sigh for his
former plains! This I think would
afford data for deciding the question.
With respect to beauty ^{of the eyes} I have always
been sceptical concerning the no-
tion of a sterndale, ^{as it is} from
stability and early habits: The beauty
of Colos. however, seems not to be
connected with stability: but however
one far from an agreement in standard
in judging of the beauty of a country.
I should give the preference to that
which affords the greatest means,
but the ease and softness of its
inhabitants. In a flat country
the want of water privileges for
mills, would be ^{the} defect in its beau-
ty: but the uniformity of surface
and the ease with which roads
are constructed would increase it. no

is more, I think, can be indifferent to the beauty of a scene in the summer season: and if in the winter it appears bleak, so also do hills and mountains covered with snow, even in New England.

The winds of extended Germanic countries, in the winter, are no doubt an inconvenience, and probably they are more severe than in hilly regions; but in Illinois the snow is much less, ^{the winter is shorter} than in our part of New England, and the inconvenience from drifting cannot be great. When Illinois is covered over with villages, ~~and~~ farm houses, and fenced into fields, no more, I think, can be more beautiful. So a spectator placed upon a small elevation, such as a steeple or any high building, what a prospect he will command! Of hills, and mountains are notwithstanding in his horizon, he will find no want of other objects. The works of man will explain every elevation; and when arts, sciences and ^{some} morality shall produce ameliorating effects, and among ^{many} people to think and act in accordance with their rational faculties, Illinois will appear like a ~~new world~~

celebrated Landscape Garden, whose
 intelligence & adaptation to commerce
 will revive the principal taste of the
 Landscape artist. Alabama certainly
 has the State well probably con-
 tain a population of several millions,
 with many parts of the concentrated
 business, more abundant of forests,
 will be surrounded with beautiful
 groves, furnishing an ample supply
 of timber for all demands. Even
 the west prairies which now seem
 to forbid cultivation, will at length
 be drained, and the rich bottoms on
 the rivers more frequently connected by
 the water of the rivers, will be
 reclaimed by the erection of embank-
 ments along the river sides, furnish-
 ing instances of invulnerable fertility.

One inconvenience will be felt
 on the prairies - a want of good well
 water. Wells may be found but they
 will be of considerable depth. But
 the arts of man will find resources
 for this difficulty, as in the lowlands
 of Holland, and some other countries.
 Another evil may be found in
 the country in its raw state - the

prevalence of febrile diseases; but
these will cease to be common after the
country is thoroughly drained and culti-
vated. *

Will it be said that these are the pro-
ductions of a fanciful imagination? I think
it is difficult to find in any Geographical
or agricultural countries far from home.
In no part of Europe, even north
of our Latitude, is there found a pro-
pensity of impropriety, nor a want of
sublimity when they are instructive;
and if any western world should prove
an exception, it must be owing to
causes beyond the reach of analogy.
The general face of Holland is that of
a large marsh that has been drained. Much
of the surface is below the level of the sea.
The meadows are usually under water
in the winter; but the inhabitants in the
Spring discharge this water into the can-
als and collect it by mills in order for
the purpose. In the midst of these swamps
and marshes the eye is surprised and de-
lighted to see numerous and important
cities and towns rising in such confusion
and all the intervening country receiving the
benefit of a continuous flourishing village. Albany
is in the suburbs of Albany.

123 February
Wednesday 27. Fair: the sun
occasionally covered with thin clouds,
and the day cold. Dripping fine -
at night closely clouded.

News paper accounts say that
a force of 500 of our ~~disorderly~~ pro-
prietors under the name of patriots are
collecting 7 miles above ~~Stratford~~ ^{Stratford}, and
another of 600 or 800 upon the
peninsula of Secord, with a
design to pass on the Ice and cut
back the frontier of Upper Cana-
da. If we have such fellows
among us, it is hoped they will
make the invasions far more be-
lievable. This would give them
manoeuvres, more effectually than
than any measures we might take
~~now~~. Our Government in the
mean time should not omit their
duty in putting down this mob.
But where is our force, the militia?
Are there any ^{other} men who make
up the mob? Will Langens language
be to place the militia on a ~~proposed~~
sanction? If so, we shall be com-
pelled to resort to a standing army
to enforce the Law.

124

Wednesday 28. (End of Month)
Fair with scattering clouds, and
moderate weather. The eves close
freely in the afternoon.

This day closes the winter quarter of
the year and of course we shall look
for warmer weather soon, though of
late years, the month of March has
exhibited much of the winter aspect.
Thursday March 1 1838.

Fair and very clear morning, after-
noon overcast, and at night fair.

This day a number of the gentlemen
who feel an interest in the erection
of a monument for the massacre of
Capt. Leitch's company at Bloody
Brook, held a meeting at Law-
rence Green, ^{in the town} and elected
a building committee to attend to
its erection. Viz. Stephen Whitney,
Dr. Stephen W. Williams, George Davis
and Amos Russell. They are au-
thorized to consult with Mr. Beeding
of (Providence) or Mr. Wood of Salem
concerning the construction of the mon-
ument; not exceeding 300 dollars;
the foundation to be laid by the
people in December 2 such a time

125
March
as are willing to give their vote.
As no other was presented by either Woods
which was adopted, with such ac-
censions as the Committee very kindly
imposed. The movement to be of
Pittsfield in a while. The money
now raised about 300 Dollars.
The Woods to raise a further sum
by subscription & protractation.

By the papers we are informed
that a Mr. Wiley, member of Congress
from Maine, has been killed
in a duel at Washington by a Mr.
Graves of Kentucky. The man-
trials not yet arrived; and
this locality committed in a
Larus claiming to be governed by
Larus! What a solecism! This
crime I venture to predict, will be
punished without punishment.
and the laws put at defiance: and
probably the murderer will be
permitted to retain his seat in Congress.

Friday 2^d. Fair and pleasant
day & bright sun. Dewdrops plentifully.
A Boston paper notices the disband-
ing of 6 light infantry companies.
By the Governor and Council.

126.

by their refusal to apologize for
leaving the Commonwealth full, when the
outgoing & would make their ap-
pearance.

An apology from a Corps of soldiers
is to me a new thing! When soldiers
disobey orders there is, or should
be, no excuse to furnish them. If under no
such laws they cannot be called soldiers
that the officers of these companies pro-
mised them duty on the common at
the time complained of, the shame-
ful situation of the men would not
have occurred. But the fact is, every-
thing belonging to our militia system
is wrong; and the sooner it falls
to confusion the better. When this
takes place there is a chance for
establishing a system upon a mil-
itary foundation, which the present
else shall we keep out of sight:
And the time which will call for
a real military force may be nearer
than we apprehend. Our present light
corps, especially in our Cities, are
not doing things, merely for the
conversion of children. We have men
who would make good soldiers

129 March
Solatius under a juniper system;
but so long as the former depends on
the latter for their places, discipline
is out of the question; and our mili-
tary force is, and will continue
to be, an empty bubble, representing
what is force in our little army
of 6 or 7 thousand men. No country
on earth, of the magnitude of ours,
is so weak in land forces as we are;
and either an efficient militia or
a standing army must be adopted
in the United States. Let seldom we
ward open our eyes to our dangers.

Saturday 3. Cloudy morning; Sun
out about 9 A.M. and day clear
and pleasant the remainder - a fine
day.

Sunday 4. Fine and fine
day; sun slowly existing. I have
not whether any bird, have been
made to obtain sap; but I think if
our soft maples were tapped it might
be. When I was a Capt. General of
my regiment, collected sap from our
hard maples, and boiled it into sugar
before the first money of New York;
perhaps 55 years ago. Spring then was
a time of sap, and I was not alone.

Contents

Progress of Settlements —	65
Laying out Land in Illinois —	82
Route to Illinois (Continued), —	85
Report of Illinois Commissioners —	87
Consecration of the Mound at Chathamfield	89.
On importing our missionaries to Providence	92
Resolutions for conducting a charge of matters.	94
Rules for conducting consecration of Mounds	96
The Bar, remarks on —	96
Indiana State of, notices of the soil of —	98
Geographical further notice of by a Gentleman	102
Illwaukee notice of, by the above	103.
Honors of the West, not contemptible —	104
Osceola, Seminole Chief, death of	107
British Troops, sufferings of —	109.
Geological Survey of the State of N. York	111
Description of a Prairie in Illinois —	115
Remarks on this locality —	118
Prospects of Illinois —	121
Non-union meeting at Deerfield —	124
Duel at Washington (fatal) —	125
Disbanding of Light Infantry at Boston	126.
with remarks on —	
General Insurgents, further Notices —	123
Recurrence of Spring, 55 years ago —	127

Sketch-Book No 10

From March 4th 1838.

To April 21st 1838.

Part 3.

March 5th 1838

128

Monday 5th Clear morning, thickening
a storm: afternoon snow storm (birds)

This day is our annual meeting for the
choice of town officers, a practice which
has been followed ever since the first
settlement of Haverhill. The day
was formerly kept as a sort of holy day
by minor boys, and each family had a
certain number of eggs for making what
was called egg-puff. The eggs were
thoroughly beaten into a thin mass,
scented with sugar - mixed with an
equal spirit. It was very pleasant to
the taste, but injurious, & cheap too freely.
Sometimes cider was substituted for
the spirit, and the cheapness was less
injurious. The practice was far from
commendable and, and is now generally
abolished.

The choice of town officers is now abolished,
or more or less introduced in many of our
towns, and all the business is transacted
by County officers. In New York each
town has its Supervisor to see to the busi-
ness of the town, and he is also a County
officer who acts with the supervisors of
the other towns in the County, so far
as the County is concerned.

129 2 March.
To us who have lived under the New
England system, the action of Town
& Proportions may appear important.
But on a full view of its operation, I am
inclined to believe it is not the best.
In Counties of a moderate size all the
business in relation to its police, may be
well performed by County officers, either
by the people, or appointed by the
County Commissioners after they are
elected.

In our Town meetings where all have
the right to vote, and being necessarily multi-
tudinous, they are not always conducted
with much order; and the great variety
of opinion which prevails on questions
perhaps meet the voters, the business
~~confused~~ tends, and perhaps some-
times incorrect, or unlawful. When Towns
are split into parties ~~disorderly~~ ^{increasing},
the papers are raised to a high pitch
much to the injury of the people.

When the police of the County is
conducted by County officers, there is
less chance for these disorders. Perhaps
sometimes occur under this system, they
are, it is believed, less frequent than when
entrusted to multitudinous assemblies.

130

Thursday 6. A very much - Snow fell
yesterday, about 3 inches; the evening
a considerable fall of rain. The day
clear & thawing.

From the particulars of the Duel
mentioned ~~in the~~ Black P^{er} as given
in the papers, it appears that the parties
Gilles & Graham fought with
Rifles at the distance of fifty yards;
that 13 shots were exchanged and on
the 4th Gilles was shot through the
lower part of the abdomen and died
instantly. Gilles had been challenged
by Col. Webb, editor of the N. York
Courier, and refused, on the ground
that Webb was not respectable. On this
Mr. Graham, who was the Baron of
the challenge, thought the laws of
honour required that he should take
up the gauntlet, and he sent a chal-
lenge to Gilles who accepted & chose the
Rifle. And his folly he now laments, as
a map of circumstances to measure
the earth, in the glorious cause of
the abolition of slavery. What is man devoid
of discretion!

Mr. Gilles was a grandson of Genl. Gilles,
of the Revolutionary War.

of the Greeks it will be said, by
his brother clerical, he has proved
himself a gentleman. He may have
this title among them; but in what
estimation will it ^{be} held by the intellig-
ent (Philosophers) ~~and~~ of the state
of the church, readers an enlightened com-
munity in more enlightened times
it will be quoted as a mark of
the benightedness of the men of our
times, as we quote the silly ex-
hibits exhibited in the eyes of Christ.
Have we misjudged the conduct of the
Greeks on this occasion? He, a mem-
ber of Congress, carries a challenge
from Col. Webb, whom the bill
thinks is not respectable; and he
carries Mr. Colby and him in
about light, the Greeks making him-
self the principal in the cause.
Here he has mortally wounded
in the affray and died a linger-
ing death, no doubt we should
have heard from ^{him} lamentations
of his fall, & a continuation of
the practice of clerical. There can
not so far advanced in refinement
as we must have seen

Congress has appointed a Committee to investigate the cause which led to the death of the "Hon. Jonathan Cilley," and whether the privilege of the house has been violated."

In debate the house have been told of the danger of the investigation. "The Committee, said Mr. East Johnson are, must brace their nerves to a contest: he would not serve on such a Committee without being well armed and prepared for collision". Yet we call ourselves a free nation; if we are so, we are not a very enlightened one.

Mr. Calhoun of Mass. moved to lay whole subject on the table - Sept. 25, says 125 (Greenfield paper). What was Mr. Calhoun's object? was he fearful? We hope not.

Let us look for a more improved state of society, when men will act more worthy of the gentlemen with which they are connected.

Gentlemen who ^{injured or} offended are not willing to be exposed to the laws, but take revenge into their own hands, then let them be deprived of law & adopt the savage

Wednesday 7. Cloudy morning -
about 9 AM, snow began and continued
gently through most of the remainder of
the day, but so moist as to melt about as
fast as it fell. New-Book

of specimens of Foreign Standard
Literature: Edited by Rev. George
Pierley of Boston. Two Vols of
this work are just from the press of
Hillard Greys & Co price \$1.25 per
Vol. to be continued occasionally.
The work is to contain a series of
translations from the German & French
relating to Philosophy History and
Theology. The vols. contain respectfully
noticed in the papers, and they
will be the editor recommends.
See a prospectus of the work page
61. No. 9. of an Sketch Book.
Coming from German and French
writers, the work may contain
much that will be new to us in
this Country, where we have few
writers of the French and none of
the German. The works of the eminent
men of those nations ought to be more
generally translated into our language &
more diffused in our Country. No useful
man should be without a key or

35 March
Thursday 8. Cloudy morn. and
thawing weather, which has continued
for several days; Snow in afternoon.
Mr Grinnell our messenger of Longue
sends me Mr Haplin's Report as the
Survey of the Coast of the United States
and the progress he has made in the
formulation of Standard Weights and
measures.

The triangulation is made with the
new theodolite of 30 inches diameter,
which Mr Haplin thinks exceeds
for accuracy, any instrument ever
constructed. At his station points
he places Heliotropes, which show
the reflection of the sun's rays from
a point, even through a haze, when
the outline of a line on which they
are placed, cannot be seen.

Sedges of Rocks hitherto unknown
are said to be discovered, abundantly
in low water, in Long Island Sound.

Friday 9 Cloudy morn. Snow
yesterday & last night 3 inches.
Most of the day fair.

Saturday 10 Fair and thawing day.
The sun bright & noon full of water.

On the murder of Mr. Cullen at Long-
ton by Mr. Gross and his accomp-
lices, it gives our some satisfaction to
have ~~many~~ ^{our} newspapers in-
dependent enough to speak of the
murderers as men of just indigna-
tion, men of the blood of some of
the Chinese bloodhounds. Col. Webb
of New York is spoken of in bold
terms, in evidence of his bloody throat
which he ^{has} given out, in evidence of
the law.

But what a contrast is here seen between
the conduct of the press in this case, and
that when Capt. Hingon was kid-
naped and murdered by a clan
of free masons, in 1824. Their conduct
then, more most disgraceful, could
ought seem to be forgotten, and vice
versa forgotten by the honest part
of the community. Let the subsequent
clashes to the secret order reflect on
their conduct in the latter case, and
if they can reconcile it with our
conduct now, they must perhaps more
than it is believed they ^{do} ^{reconcile}.
If the laws in this case could be brought
to the court, who were in surprise

37
to form it so in the summer of
the valley by one of his brethren in
the ranks? Oh my Country! to cast
no longer of a Government of laws
take no notice of our election and
the savage State. Once learn that
the

"Who wisely is wise or madly brave,
Is but the more a fool the more a man."

It is reported that a Brother of the
deceased, who was an officer in Col.
Miller's Regiment in the late war
in the Battle at Lynch's Lane, has
gone to Washington; and being a
military gentleman it is conjectured
he may seek some opportunity to
try his skill with some of the war
chiefs of his brother. I should re-
gret such an occurrence as another
defiance of the laws. If the Germans
and his accomplices can escape with
impunity, it is proper that the peo-
ple should know it. When it is found
that murder can go unpunished
by our laws, then it may be necessary
for the people to take measures to
protect themselves. Let us hope that
some will never arrive.

Sunday 11. Fair day, and partially cloudy & thining. Good service there.

Monday 12. Fair & bright morn, the day very pleasant.

I am informed the sugar makers are now tapping their maples in the upland towns, and if the present weather holds long, it must be a good season. The quantity of sap drawn from a good healthy tree is surprising. Dr. Williams, ^{the sugar maker} states that a man much employed in making sugar, informed him that for 21 days together, one of his maple trees discharged 7¹/₂ gallons each day; once a large beech tree at the rate of 5 gallons an hour when first tapped; eight or nine days after, it discharged at the rate of about 2¹/₂ gallons an hour, once at the end of 15 days the discharge was nearly of the same quantity. The whole quantity discharged in 1 or 5 weeks was estimated at 60 barrels.

Whence this quantity of fluid? And what an evaporation must be produced by the trees of a large forest? The Dr. made some curious experiments

39 Howe
to determine the quantity of evaporation
above from an acre of forest trees; and
the result was, that in 12 hours 3875 gallons
were thrown into the atmosphere.

See History of Vermont Vol. 1. p. 91.
Whether an equal quantity is supplied
from an acre of surface covered with
grass or other vegetation has not been
determined to my knowledge.

If the result of the experiment of Dr
Williams may be relied on, who well
observes that the clearing of a country from
its forests must have ~~an~~ marked
effect upon the atmosphere.

He also made experiments to de-
termine the different degrees of heat in
the earth in open and covered grounds,
consequently the following result. Expos-
ing the same to the full force of the
solar rays in this Latitude (Rattun)
will find only a heat at the depth
of 10 inches below the surface 10 or 11
degrees greater than that which he
measures in the uncultivated country;
and this effect, he says, continues
while the solar rays are sufficient
to increase the heat of the earth. See
page 94 same Vol. Hume

Should it might be inferred, that a country cleared of its woods, would become warmer than one covered with trees. But can there not ~~some~~ countervailing causes to produce a different effect? May not the increase of heat produce a greater evaporation, in the presence of the sun, and thereby render the earth colder in the morning, than if the heat had been less during the day. The effects of evaporation in producing cold are well known; since where the ground is moist, there can be no doubt that the evaporation must be greater than where the ground is dry, provided the heat be sufficient. By experiments made by Dr. Wells, of England, it appears that the radiation of heat from the ~~whole~~ surface of the open fields, is greater during clear nights than where the earth is covered by trees.

From these facts it appears to me probable that some clearing of its woods, may become cooler than that covered with trees; and therefore that our summers may be diminishing in heat, as far as by observation.

Dr. Withers's History of Vermont
 was first published in one volume, and
 in 1809 an enlarged edition in 2 Vol 800
 published at Bennington This now, I
 believe, remains in our libraries
 and should be republished in a cheap
 equal to its great merits, with a con-
 tinuation of the History of Vermont
 down to the time. Among the libraries
 of the State none appear to me
 so valuable.

In the evening of this day, the Rev.
 Mr. Brooks of Birmingham entertained an
 audience at the Brick School House
 with extracts from ^{his} journal to Italy
 in 1834, describing the papal exhibi-
 tion at one of the Pope's holy weeks
 at Rome. The display was of the
 most reprehensible kind, and worthy
 calculation to produce what are
 deeply rooted religious impressions on
 those who are incapable of a religious
 mission or reason in some senti-
 ment. Will mankind ever be so
 enlightened as to embrace rational
 Christianity? How far not. Directed
 of mystery & where it has been
 for the ignorant, some when closed.

with the absurdities of the orthodox system of the present day, its effects on morals are little better.

With me it is a question whether the Roman Catholic system, with all its absurdities & superstitions, is more pernicious, on the whole, than Protestant orthodoxy, when carried to its full length. Both are hostile to scientific improvements and the common sense of uneducated minds. The history of the former presents a bloody course, and whether the latter, had it power, would commit equal enormities is to be seen. In a country where the civil authority has so power over the consciences of men, it would seem that there is little danger of persecution from religious belief or disbelief; yet a fanatical clergy may do much in misleading the uninformed; but their influence is limited, and always checked by the enlightened part of community. Knowledge then is our safeguard, and there fore it is the duty of good men to aid in its diffusion.

Tuesday 13. Fair and fine day.
 My recollection is correct the weather
 resembles that of nearly 50 years
 ago; then the transition from winter to
 spring was quick and very different
 from that of late years.

This day recd. the 1st & 4th of the Illinois
 Statesman, published at Paris by Love
 & Delay. dated February 23. 1838.
 The same gentleman recently printed
 the Danville Longman at Danville in
 Vermillion County, for which I was
 a subscriber, through the agency of
 my son Arthur, who paid for the
 paper for me a cent, which I referred
 to him when he was lost at Durdale.

It is written in this paper supposed
 that Cairo, came not at the junction of
 the River Mississippi at the southern
 point of Illinois, will become a place
 of great business, as soon as the central
 rail road from that place northward
 shall be finished; The Mississippi
 from that place, he says, is open for
 heavy boats all seasons of the year
 and will have an unobstructed
 route with Orleans, which is not the
 case with places on the Ohio & Mississippi.

144
Allan, he says, is becoming what
Cincinnati is to Ohio, the "back market"
of the State; and he predicts that Howell
Cannon near the rapids of the Wabash
will be the Rochester of New York.
In this place will be found the best
water power in the West.

According to Peck, the country around
Mt Carmel is high, undulating, healthy,
and contains an extensive settlement
of industrious farmers. In the place
16 stores, 2 taverns & a third in course of
erection - 1200 inhabitants; 3 steam
mills, one of four mill; mechanics and
traders of various descriptions; a foundry
for casting for machinery &c. From 31st
of March to 12th of April 1837, 26 Steam
boats arrived & departed. Works are
now constructing to render a passage
up the rapids of Wabash easy.

So many points on the waters
of Illinois, famous for towns and
cities, or places for trade, that it is
difficult to say which is likely
to be the most commanding. But
it is certain that so long as steam
boats are used in navigation the
whole State will find opening for trade at

numerous points and ready communications with the seaboard, by New Orleans, or New York; and the interior position of the Country, can hardly be an objection ~~to it~~ in the mind of an emigrant.

Without the inventive genius of a Fulton what would have been the ~~consequence~~ ^{consequence} of the ~~river~~ ^{navigation on} the Mississippi since its conquest by man? The settlements would have been delayed for a long time; the country remained the haunt of the savage and wild beasts for ~~many~~ years to come; and the fertile bottoms & prairies left to pass forth their sparsest vegetation to the passing winds & ~~solitary~~ ^{solitude} ~~solitude~~ ^{solitude} without the cheering sounds of civilisation, or the smiling scenes of farm houses, villages and cities, the abodes of competency & wealth, which now appear in many parts of State.

Wednesday 14. Fine and pleasant weather.

Common Birds begin to appear, among which is the Blue Bird - going in this sort of pleasing warble on

March

1854

the fowls were born to be "once seeking the hole in the old apple tree, the crevice of some excavation of his ancestors," as Wilson very appropriately describes his first appearance of that early bird.

The annual immigration and emigration of the feathered race, is a curious phenomenon of nature, ~~and~~ not yet well understood. We suppose at the approach of winter they wing their way to the warm southern regions, and in the spring return to their former summer residence. Many proceed to high northern latitudes, at the opening of spring, where they rear their young, and in the fall season collect them back to their winter residence. They move in flocks in flocks, or singly.

Some we know move in vast flocks. This is the case with Pigeons. I well recollect seeing them wheeling over us from the north in the fall season, in flocks, or rather extended lines, in such numbers as to defy estimation. These lines often extended from our coast to the westward.

will probably reach farther, in a
pretty exact alignment, and depth
of file (to use a military phrase) and
I think I am correct when I say, as
many as half a dozen of these lines
were in sight at the same time. Their
number must have been immense.
In the Spring season they were also
seen in vast flocks moving northward,
though not so numerous as in the fall.
Of late years they have diminished
~~immensely~~ and in some seasons
very few ever seen; and our young
people can form but a very im-
perfect conception of their former
numbers. In the western regions
probably they are still numerous,
and will remain so until the destruc-
tive men shall over spread the
country, and rob them of the food
which nature has furnished them in
uncultivated countries. And here they
find a check to their multiplication:
for no more can exist than can
procure food necessary for their sup-
port. Hence as men increase and
cultivated spreads, they resort else-
where.

1148
Thursday 15 - Fair, clear and
warm - some weather just.
Friday 16. Cloudy; but sun occa-
sionally seen.
A pamphlet containing a Report
on the Immigration of Negroes to the United
States, by a Committee of our Legislature,
has been sent me by our Senator
James C. Howard Esq. of which Com-
mittee he was Chairman.
The Report I understand was written
by Mr. Howard, and has been adopted
by our Legislature, a copy to be forwarded
to each of our Senators & Representatives
in Congress, and to each of the Executives
of the several States.
Accompanying the Report is a Resolution
with a preamble touching the subject
of emigration; the Resolution ends
as follows: "that no act done, or con-
tract made for such purpose (the immigra-
tion) by the Government of the United
States, will be binding on the States,
or the People".
The main position taken in the Re-
port is, that Congress have no consti-
tutional power to admit into our
union, any foreign Nation or people;

once I think the position only sustained, and that the report that it is a valuable document concerning principles of great consequence as connected with the honor and welfare of the States. The distinction between a purchased territory and an independent State is clearly pointed out; and it is evident that in the latter case an annexation cannot be effected but by consent of the people who form our confederacy. The Report I think will have a salutary effect, and open the eyes of the Southern States to their interests. The pamphlet comprises 39 octavo pages, handsomely printed.

Saturday 17 - Cloudy day - indicating snow or rain. In many places the ground is now shrouded in snow, and the roads muddy.

For several days past our people have gathered up from the marshes in front of my house and boiled it down to sugar and molasses. The process carries on a rapidity, the innocent sweet & pure. R

maple orcheena on a farm is a valuable appendage, as from it, a family may supply sugars & molasses sufficient for their own use, and in good seasons a quantity for market. Perhaps no beverage is more wholesome than pure water mingled sweetened with maple molasses or maple sugars, especially in the hot seasons, and to the taste it is very equalled ^{practically} to ~~stomachs~~ ^{stomachs} that have not been injured with ardent spirits. The saccharine principle seems to be peculiarly fitted for the stomachs of human beings. Children can universally partake of it, and in the west Indies the negroes can subsist on the juice of the sugar cane with little other food; some other animals also feed on it.

According to Pewkes sugar is composed of the following substances; Carbon 20, Hydrogen 8, and Oxygen 64, parts of 100 - These substances combined in different proportions form other substances; such as Olive oil, resins, gums & wax. Nitrogen sometimes also enters into some of these

Sunday 18. Cloudy & a small
fall of snow, through the day.

Monday 19. Fair day; yester-
days snow gone, covered the old di-
minishing. Frosty winter seems to be
withdrawing from the approach of the
clear sun which we have ^{had} for some
time, and if it returns with us much
further, some again cover the ground
with its snowy flecks its reign must be
short; for the sun will soon pass
the equinox, and give us 12 hours of
day. At this time its cheering rays
may be extended to the North pole,
though, in fact, below its horizon.
Refraction in the cold atmosphere of the
frigid zone is greater than that of the
warmer regions, and this may give
the sun a small altitude at the pole
when on the equinox.

Illinois Road Roads.

From the Illinois Stationer I learn that
most of the routes surveyed by my son
Cuthbert, were contracted for on the
22^d of ~~January~~ ^{March} 18th for
San Antonio. The bridge over Ten-
nessee River by J. H. Colburn of
Vail, Va. Asher, and Breed and

Livingston of Lowell Massachusetts.
 The two last have charge of the Stone
 works, and the ^{chief} of the three coops. Conkey
 is the same architect who built the
 main Bridge on the Rail Road. Another
 constructed at Bangor. The Road from
 Terre Haute by Paris was the first
 under contract at the latter place, on
 the 1st of March. Indeed, it is said,
 I, as returned home to procure yard
 workmen, the Illinoisians being raw
 at the business. The two routes are
 10 miles each, making 36, and with
 two large bridges, one on each route,
 there may be work for several years.
 It is said money has been obtained
 by Illinois sufficient to complete
 the whole of these internal projects,
 which appears to me very doubtful.
 No State in the Union has
 projected so extensive lines of roads
 as Illinois; and should it come to
 a halt before the whole are finished
 it would not be unexpected by me.
 A direct tax on the lands of the State
 to carry on the works, would strike
 a dead blow, and suspend them at
 once. This may be the conclusion.

March.

Thursday 20. Cloudy morning
and fair afternoon & evening.

The Greenfield paper of this day announ-
ces the death of Nathaniel Bowditch,
^{LLD.} of Boston, on Friday the 14th
instant - no particulars of his sick-
ness. In the death of this great
man science has sustained a loss
that will not soon be made up.
Unassuming & retired as he was, the
world would know little of him. It
was only the Common Philosopher, the
^{deep} mathematician since the first second
astronomer who could estimate
his work minutely, and penetrate
his deep researches. In the re-
conclite principles of astronomy he
^{was} second to none, since the death of La
Place, whose great work, the Me-
canique Celeste, he had for several
years been translating and publi-
sing in the American States. Some of
the Vols. in Lts. I have seen, but
have not whether he had com-
pleted the translation.
You cannot obtain him, ever
living, let us imitate his genius,
Honour this Son of Massachusetts!

Wednesday 21. Dark cloudy morn
with a fall of night snow. At noon
the sun out, once fair & fine day.
Equinoctial day, change of sun's
declination from south to North;
~~Blackbird~~ sun visible
at each pole; days & night equal; Sun
rises in the east and sets in the west
poles of the horizon ~~only~~ since
his meridian altitude = Co. Lat. of
Denfield = $47^{\circ} 28'$. Strictly, these aspects
~~never~~ are found only where the sun
is in the equatorial point, and
no other way for parallels & reflection
be supposed to effect them.

The early birds, such as the blue
blackbird have been seen, and but
a small quantity of snow is left on
the ground.

Thursday 22. Fair but hazy
day, then we have

Friday 23. Cloudy morn not
touched with fog, the same
weather continued through the
day.

From a biographical notice of
Dr Barclay in a Boston paper

155 . March
it appears he was born at Salem
on the 26 of March 1793: he com-
menced the translation of La Placé's
Mémorie Lettrée in 1815, but he
was not able to complete the final
revision of the whole of this great
work, a few days before his death
he corrected the proofs of the
4th Vol. The 5th was only remaining
vol. ^{is in some} is comparatively of little im-
portance, and it would probably
have had but slight revisions,
even had he survived.

Dr Bowditch was a member of va-
rious Learned Societies in Europe and
America. In his native State he had
for several years been the President
of the American Association of Anti-
quarian Sciences, which is indebted to him
for a large share of the respecta-
bility it has enjoyed.

In the death of this great man
we have lost our great ornament
and the science of Europe will
well mourn its falling on the great
of observing when shall we
see another Bowditch! Ah -
when!

Small Pox among the Indians.
By accounts from the West we
are informed that this fatal disease
has spread among the Indians of
the western territory since its in-
troduction here, in some instances
almost entirely cut off; and that
the disease is spreading far and
wide over the extensive regions
~~between~~, probably to the Pacific
ocean. The sufferings of the wild
sons of the forest, as represented by
several of our readers visiting among
them, are distressing to humanity.
That this disease should occasionally
spread among them is not strange;
and from their want of a know-
ledge of the mode of treating it,
we must regret that it would
be very destructive. Some efforts
have been made, & it is, by our
Government, to introduce the
vaccine inoculation among them.
But it difficult to persuade them
of its importance. Jealous as they
are of us, they cannot readily be
persuaded that we would intend to
thwart our efforts for their happi-

154 Memorandum
may come prosperity; and perhaps
in some instances they have to a great
ground for such impressions.
Notwithstanding what our ^{indigenous} facts
have sometimes ~~shown~~ ^{indicated} of the happy
mode of life, I think it must be
admitted, that their condition, ~~is~~
on the whole, is pitiable, and will
continue so, until the arts and
sciences are spread over their coun-
try by civilized communities.

From the discovery of the many
works of art found in the western
regions, we are led to believe that
in former times the population
of the country must have been
more numerous than at the pre-
sent, ~~and~~ if not in a higher state
of civilization; and may we
not suppose that the ~~population~~
has hitherto been spread among
them, and in its course depre-
-ciated the country?

How much with reasoning
faculties, is capable of vast im-
provement; but his happiness
depends on the right use of these
faculties; and when these are

manifested he is less happy than the
 brute that acts from blind instinct,
 in which nature kindly leads them
 to all that is necessary for their
 subsistence and comfort. Hence
 then the importance of improving
 the faculties of ^{the} human mind are
 obvious. Reason is the ruler, Star of
 man, instinct that of the brute.
 I am not however certain, that the
 latter are entirely destitute of some
 reasoning faculties, as we see in the
~~the~~ dog, the monkey, the horse and
 some other animals; but whenever
 these faculties are formed, instinct
 becomes a less motor. In the in-
 fant, instinct governs, but when
 its necessary powers begin to prevail
 the former gives way to the latter,
 and the adult acts from his
 own volition, except in his invol-
 untary functions, which have their
 origin in another source. It is
 important then is the reasoning
 faculty. Without this, what were
 man? With this, if duly cherished,
 we have what living, "the nobility
 of God!"

Saturday 24 Cloudy & foggy
morning with a little rain. Before noon
the sun appeared and the day fair
but hazy sky.

Lempford Stebbins son of Major
Stebbins of this town, writes to his
friends from New Deerfield, & North
a new place ^{50 miles} in Shute County
about 20 miles north of the New
State Road. He says the site of
the town is an elevation, very phan-
tastic, he calls it a mound, and says
that his son, my son, is to build
a mill (suppose a saw mill) this
season. The land he represents
as good as any in the world. The
settlers, from the south, live in a
very plain style, on farm and home
very small, & rather inclosed. The Yankees
he says are getting rich, & raise
every thing in abundance, and
have large stocks of cattle, hogs and
many horses, which are pastured
on the prairies. Another class of
the people he calls speculators
(or sharpshooters) apparently
civil & polite, but ready to ^{take} advantage
of others in business. His letter there

March
 6 Dennis, the state, has gone to the land
 office at Vancouver to enter a tract of
 land for himself and to there is of
 course government land.

Many of the people here parents
 are proposing a sort of fence of the yan-
 kees; but if you call at their houses
 at night and want entertainment,
 they readily furnish what is wanted
 and will spare even their bed clothes
 to accommodate the stranger. A com-
 pany of Yankees would soon
 find a ~~social~~ place on a boat
 they should occupy & cultivate.

A people proposing no claims above
 those of animal gratification, may
 properly be in still a social set
 of beings, fitted rather for the soci-
 ty of dogs and hounds than in
 that of men. The mental ap-
 pliances must be erected before the
 the blessings of social intercourse
 can be felt in their vigor. When
 this has become known, men are
 full of energy and activity, &
 they soon ~~become~~ agreeable asso-
 ciates. One who in his
 travels through ~~xxxxxx~~

Sunday 25. Fair day & NW wind
 sun bright but air rather cool, and
 safe none more fully than in a warm
 day. The rationale of this success of
 nature I do not yet understand.
 alternations of heat and cold,
 seems to be necessary for the pro-
 duction of the safe: much why is this?

Monday 26. Fair day with some
 haze afternoon. The snow in our
 valley is seen only in patches; it
 has melted away by the warmth
 of the sun rays without the aid
 of rains, which have been very
 rare during the winter, and the
 springs low.

As the mountain rains have been
 scarce during the past winter, come,
 it be true that about the same quan-
 tity of aqueous matter descends annu-
 ally, may we not look for a wet
 summer this year? This would
 seem to be the result from the
 phenomena.

Tuesday 27. Cloudy day & full of
 moist snow, melting as it falls.

Indian mode of fortification.

163 ... March

We are active with the Florida
Americans on the ^{first} ~~bottom~~ ^{first} of January in
which Gen. Joseph commanded,
the Indians occupied ground on
the side of a creek, which they had
fortified as follows: They made holes
in the trees, set up pickets and sentries
so as to cover themselves, forming blinds
and clearing away the hammocks
on the side where Joseph attacked.
The blinds prevented a sight of the ene-
my. Not he least them from their
attacks, some sustained a considerable
loss: the Gen. was wounded in the
face. The Indians were said to have
been well furnished with arms
and provisions.

In this destructive war, these In-
dians have shown that they are
not only brave, but ~~they~~ possess
resources of wit equal at least to
~~with~~ those of their opponents.

Illness & a High fever Canceled
a distinction has lately occurred
among the workmen on this canal.
The James Brooks a Contractor
had in his employment a large
number of men.

he discharged once more off. This
 initiated the ^{others} ~~assassins~~, and a party
 made an attempt on the Brooks
 with an intent to take his life, as
 testified in which Brooks dis-
 charged a fatal wound on
 one of the rioters. Hence, party then
 collected, attacked & destroyed Brooks
 of me, but he escaped & applying
 to a Magistrate for a warrant to
 arrest some of the leaders, and with
 the assistance of a body of militia
 from Chicago and other places
 13 of the Irishmen were taken
 submitted to the authority of
 Willis County.

These volunteers are a useful set
 of men, if they can be managed;
 but this is found to be a difficult
 task. In general they are ex-
 tremely ignorant and liable to
 sudden gusts of passion, when no-
 thing short of military force will
 reduce them to order. Whenever
 they are employed in large num-
bers the militia of the neighboring coun-
 try should be well armed and
 ready to turn out at a moment's

For the ~~new~~ management of a station in
an army it is found necessary to employ
a considerable number of non-commissioned
officers who receive higher
pay than the soldiers. These are carefully
selected, of steady habits & firmness
of character, who have charge of
companies in their several companies.
By living with the men, and entering
into their concerns as friends & friends
rather than as superiors, they acquire great influence
over them, and thereby keep them
in close order in the most critical
times. May not a scheme of
this kind be found useful in the
management of the large bodies
of Irishmen employed on pub-
lic works? If a few faithful
men could be found among them,
some higher wages paid them,
while they perform their duty well,
might not the disturbances which
frequently occur be avoided?
The only objection to this plan is to
employ those among them who are
qualified for the duty of ^{non-}commissioned
officers.

March

1851

Wednesday 28 This morning
snow of an inch covers the ground
the air cold, and atmosphere cloud-
ed through the day.

Thursday 29 A brisk fall of snow
in the morning, & about 4 inches melted
at 9 o'clock. The remainder of the
day continued cloudy, with occasional
falls of snow, though the sun was
now and then seen.

Ecology on Dr Bowditch

John Pickering has been appointed
by the American Academy of Arts
& Sciences to deliver this Ecology, probably
at the annual meeting in May next.
This gentleman ranks high in Boston
as a literary man, but of his know-
ledge of the physical sciences I am
uninformed. Of the class just
subject he will render an important
service to science, and it is hoped the
work will be published in a pamphlet
and not locked up in the Vol-
ume of the Society, of which there are now
able to obtain a perusal in the
country. Our Library containing
in this town papers that Vol. but
have not been able to procure the others

now have I been able to find them
in the Boston Bookstores, which I
have thought & either singular. Are
they printed only for the members?
The society, though an important
one, is little known in the Country;
and the members are unknown
of the Royal Society at London
we have more information
from its institution up to 1800 the
society had published 90 vols. in
cluding ^{the year} 1800; and if we add 1406
in years since that period the present
number will be 129, all in 4to.

What a mass of science, and
how much the world is indebted
to the institution for its labor!

In 1812 the History of the Society from
its institution, to ^{the year} 1800, was published
in London by Thomas Thompson
And one of the most curious, in which
we have a concise account of
the 90 vols. then in print. The
history is composed in 1481 fto. a
valuable work, which I have
in my private Library. It is hoped
it will be continued on the same
plan.

March

168

Friday 30. Fair morn, but the
sun obscured most of the day. Snow
fast ~~disappearing~~ - mostly, wind.

Saturday 31. Fair and clear
day. With a westerly breeze. our sap
trees continue to flow though moderately
but it seems to possess less of the
saccharine principle than that of the
first flows. This seems to be however
to sugar makers who, towards the
close of the sugar season, boil the
sap to make sugar instead of sugar
but the rationale of the rise of sap
in trees we have referred our
inability to describe.

In Thompson's History of the Roy.
Society, under the article Nat-
ural History, page 59, the question
is examined and the various hy-
potheses which have been proposed
attempted; and the conclusion is,
that the ascent of the sap is owing
to some power excited in the living
vegetable; but what that power
is we are still entirely ignorant.
Our knowledge of this process of
nature, the author says, is at pres-
ent ~~in the same state~~ in the same state.

1849 April
~~that~~ as that of Linnaeists with
respect to the animal fluids, be-
fore Harvey's great discovery of
the circulation of the blood.

A more full knowledge of the struc-
ture of trees may ^{perhaps} enable us to ex-
plain the cause of the rise of the
sap, and some future Harvey
may make the discovery.

on the Structure of Vegetables,
see Vegetable Physiology in the Library
of Useful Knowledge. Vol. 14. Nov. 1827

Sunday April 1. Fair day;
our last snow almost gone;
northerly wind and air cool.

Monday 2. Fair and cold
and northerly wind. Unusually
warm westerly winds prevail at this
season, the air is cold, and it is
highly probable the Hoosier range
of mountains, in some way, produce
this temperature. On account of
the weather and winds on the
east and west side of the main
range, on some stormy days, is
evident by which some clouds could
be perceived far inland, the
question relating to the mountain influence

I am inclined to believe a descent of the upper line over the mountain would ^{often} be formed ~~down~~ when one readily of course proceeds; and that an ~~east~~ westerly wind would sometimes be formed on the west side, where the westerly blows here.

Being at Bennington a few years ago I noticed ^{the} the low houses on the hannon of ancient man erected with their open sides facing the west, and on enquiring why thus placed ~~in this situation~~ was told that gusts of wind often descend from the mountain and overturn these buildings, when facing the mountain. These gusts are probably ~~caused~~ ^{occasioned} by the descent of the upper air of the mountain, and particularly at the time of thunder showers in the summer season.

Tuesday 3. Rain with cold westerly winds. One street is now so deep with mud reaching on the sidewalk.

In a letter from Arthur, my son, to Franklin Stuart dated Paris 10th. 1838, he says he has noticed a low house on Township Q N.

1271
range, East of the third principal one
richness; situated between Vandalia
& Shelbyville, about 5 miles from
the Kentucky river, and between Branch
Creek and Richland Creek; as
wild as the Carolina about; but
as rich as mud, surrounded with
timber of the best kind, and is capa-
ble of being made a perfect garden.
L. & S. Stephens & James Hawley,
have pitched their camps upon
it; the latter has a good log house
with two rooms & two chambers.
A better location, he says, cannot
be made in Illinois.

It is intended to break up 300 acres
of prairie this summer, to build
a mill and turn a brick kiln.
He offers land to Desford im-
igrants who wish to settle on the
land, and will sell the broken
prairie if they choose (or ploughed)

So immigrants from the great
he recommends the route by
New York, Philadelphia, Pitts-
burg and thence by water to St
Louis, and from that place by
land to his location.

April

172

A passage of a traveler from New York
to St Louis with company \$55.
Deck Do ————— \$27.

Whichever generally half price.
The broken Prairie to be planted
with Corn, oats and Potatoes the
first year. Provisions will be ready
for immigrants.

He states that he has bought 2 St. Louis
lot of Land in Desperado meadows
west of June here some wishes to
have it to rent it as well as he
can - the lot about 8 acres.

Wednesday 4 June with westerly
winds - the day cool.

Illinois in 1837 with a letter
map. This book was published
at Philadelphia at the close
of that year by S. Augustus Mitchell,
of an 800 size, 143 pages. It
contains much information of
Illinois, compiled principally
from Peck's Gazetteer, Smith's Geo-
graphy and other works, and
includes the most recent matters
concerning Peck's work, a forest which
is useful for the immigrant
the map is the latest I have seen.

173 April
Thursday 5. Fair day - warm
calm & very pleasant.
In morning received a letter from As-
thor dated Danville Illinois March
22. He states that besides his engineering
business, he is engaged in settling a Colony
of eastern people near the middle of
Illinois on between 223 Thousand acres,
which cannot be ^{by good roads} surpassed in the State
about equally divided between prairie
and wood land, which has been
selected after a thorough examina-
tion of the Country; the town to be
named Placemore. He adds: there
never was nor will be again so
good an opportunity for Desperado
people to migrate and settle toge-
ther. Offers land at 5 dollars the Acre
to settlers.
There are many people in Desford
who are without farms and live only
by hand labor, to whom migration
would be of great advantage;
and they are ready to give
some the money requisite for
the journey and to furnish even
a small tract of land could they
reach Illinois. Single men who

April.

174

are industrious and willing to labor, may
do well in Illinois. Two or three years wa-
ges will ^{purchase} ~~be~~ ^{be} sufficient for a farm
once within a few years they may
find themselves in easy, if not in inde-
pendent circumstances. But with
the same labor once including here,
such as the price of land, they must
always remain poor. With 1000 Dal-
lers a farm with good management
in Illinois, is sure of independence,
and that same here is wholly in-
sufficient to support a family with-
out indefatigable labor.

But the attachment of people
to the place of their birth ^{will} ~~may~~ ^{may}
to their homes and their reluctance
to change out a life of hard toil for
rather than attempt to emigrate
their condition by emigration. And
perhaps it is fortunate for our
large farmers that this disposition
prevails, otherwise they might not
have labored to cultivate their
lands here.

Friday 6- Few and hazy moon
once the same throughout the day.
Ground nearly everywhere for the first time.

(April.)

Last evening (Sat.) Mr. Gushing the merchant who has contracted to construct the Bridges on the Rail routes under the superintendence of my son in Illinois called at Mr. C. G. Harris on his route home. He informs that our boys are well and in close employment.

Says the past winter at Illinois has been cold, though short; that the land is good, as well as the culture of the country; came to Dayton by the Wabash, Ohio, Pittsburg & Indiana, then N. York, and will return to Illinois, with hands or laborers.

He saw a New York paper a short affair promising settlements on the Prairies of the Wabash valley, with acres of 200 acres, and convenient log houses on them. The lands in this valley are little known by our people, and, I think, they may be found very valuable, like the intervals on the Connecticut.

As soon as the canal from the mouth to Lafayette on the Wabash is completed, it will furnish the easiest and most direct route to the West.

April

176

This canal from its eastern termination at Manhattan, to the Indiana line, is stated to be 89 miles within the state of Ohio, and 110 miles in Indiana. The chief obstruction to its completion, is in the latter part of the measure of 10 miles, the most difficult section. The project in Indiana is about 80 miles, extending to or near Lafayette, and the whole length in both States 200 miles. The project in Indiana was to have been completed last year. See Sketch Book Vol 9 page 23.

Saturday 7. Fair and warm day. small wind; our street nearly clear. A few patches of snow; the remains of drifts on the north sides of hills and buildings, may be seen. The buds of Lilacs begin to expand, and we have every reason to expect an early season of vegetation.

Cape May, N. H. & Co of Danville, Illinois March 9-1838, have scattered hand bills ~~in Danville~~ for the purpose of engaging 5000 Laborers and 500 carpenters. Some Masons and Smiths

an

1977

April.

on the northern crop and lumber branch Rail roads in the State of Illinois who can find constant employment once reasonable compensation by calling out Paris Edgar County, and Danville Vermilion County in Illinois.

"Come and try (say they) "and if you do not like Rail-roading, you can be immediately independent by investing \$200 in Government Bonds, the fruitfulness of which cannot be surpassed."

If this number of workmen are required to construct the two Rail Roads mentioned, how many will be required on the whole within the State?

The distance of Illinois and the necessary expenses on the route from this quarter of the Country are such, that very few workmen will be inclined to embrace the offers of the advertisement. To single men desirous of procuring funds it may afford a good opportunity for ~~procuring~~ them. But the wages alone would be but a trifling contribution to elevating the ~~condition~~ ^{condition} of the people of Illinois.

April

178.

Sunday 8. Fair day with heavy
sky, thickening to clouds towards evening
and southerly winds, indicating rain
of which we have had little this
spring ~~anywhere~~ up to this time

Monday 9. Cloudy morn, some
rain last night. afternoon fair with
NW winds.

The Cherokee Indians

This important Indian nation sit-
uated in the NW corner of Georgia the
NE corner of Alabama and SE part
of Tennessee by a protracted treaty
are to be removed from their country
in the month of May next, to the wild
~~country~~ west of Arkansas. The treaty
which our government endeavors to con-
sider as valid, is said to have been
entered into by a few Cherokees of
no authority in the nation, and is
thus considered by the great body of
their people; and they have recently
sent a remonstrance to Congress
and to be signed by 15,665 Cherokees
asking for a consideration of their
case and redress of their grievances.
Reports in the papers say that
the President of the U.S. has ordered

Genl. Scott to return to the Country,
 take command of the troops and
 force a compliance with the treaty.

The question is, whether the treaty on
 the part of the Cherokees, was made
 by authorized agents? and if not
 it cannot be considered as binding them
 to quit their Country. The ~~power~~^{right} of the
 Indian Chiefs to transfer their Country
 is very doubtful, although a long
 practice. But in the case of these
 Cherokees it appears the treaty was
 not signed by their Chiefs, or at any
 rate, only by a part of them, and
 others of no sort of authority.

The case is so flagrantly wrong
 that the humane people in the State
 wish to arrest proceedings under
 the Treaty, and are forwarding
 petitions to Congress for that pur-
 pose. One signed by a consid-
 erable number of people of this town,
 of that purpose, is to be immediately
 forwarded to Washington. I cheerfully
 put my name to it. But when
 then every thing of this nature
 coming from northern people will
 any useful effect is doubtful. Probably

the unfortunate Cherokees will be driven
from their homes to the western wilds
and the voracious Georgians will seize
their lands and dwellings; but not
to cultivate the soil with their own
hands, but with those of the poor
blacks under the lash of the driver.
Oh my Country! where is thy sense
of honor - thy humanity - thy justice?
I feel before the grasping hand of
Mammon, sink below a wretched
servitude and lose to a manly sense
of right. Such ^{want of rectitude} want of rectitude
upon our Country in the view of the
civilized nations of Europe, over
whom we boast of superior intelligence
and justice. Under such a course
who will not be ashamed of the
name of American?

Tuesday 10 Fine morning & broken clouds ^{of snow}

Last night an Eclipse of the moon,
commenced between 7 & 8 o'clock. A
few clouds, with light.

On the occurrence of an eclipse my
admiration of the wonderful accuracy
with which astronomers have
determined the motion of the heavenly
bodies is roused. To construct table of

181 April
moon must have been a long and
laborious task; and when we con-
sider her accelerations and retarda-
tions by the attraction of the sun
and earth, according to her position
in relation to them, the task seems
next to an impossibility. Yet the inge-
nuity and perseverance of astronomers
have surmounted all the difficulties,
and we now have tables by which
the places of the sun, moon and planets
may be determined with the nicest
precision for any time, both ante-
cedent and prospective. In fact
their places are better known in the
heavens, than the Latitudes and Longi-
tudes ^{of places} on the Earth. So what a pin-
nacle then has astronomy arrived at!
None of our sciences can claim greater
perfection; and the researches and
calculations of a Newton, a Le Placé,
a Boscovich and others, surpass of
express the work of mortals.
By greater perfection in the constan-
tion of Instruments future astrono-
mers may arrive at greater accuracy
in the dimensions ^{of distances} of the bodies belong-
ing to the solar system. But with

April

182

these instruments and the effect
of later astronomical, the funda-
mental principles of this science
will not materially vary.

Wednesday 11. Cloudy morning attended
with a fall of snow, very slight. After-
noon some rain - fair at night.

Thursday 12. Fair and pleasant
and clear. Received a letter from
William at Paris Illinois.

Friday 13. Fair and cloudy
at times: rain & rather cold.
Last evening we closed our village
Lectures with one from Dr Willard;
they commenced on the Sunday evening
on the 4th of January and with
the exception of one week continued
on the evening of this day ^{each} week to
last evening. The whole N. H., on various
subjects, such as were selected
by the speakers. If they have failed
of useful instruction they have at
least service for amusement.
The Gentlemen who gave lectures were
the following: Jonathan A. Sartor - John
G. Spencer - Pliny Sumner - George Dickinson
^{acc. Dickinson}
Luther Lincoln - John Williams Dr. Ebel -
Dr. Williams - Mr. Belcher - Adams Williams

483

April

On Wednesday, each one Lecture,
 on Exp: Hymn two lectures = 14.
 These assemblies undoubtedly
 are preferable to lectures and sermons,
 and were well attended by the
 young people, as well as others.

Wednesday The Snow of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch
 last night & this forenoon; and at night
 snow gone (entirely).

This day two young men, William
and James Stebbins and Samuel
Stebbins wife and children, set
 out for Illinois, via Philadelphia
 and Pittsburg, by whom I sent
 a long letter to my son at Peris
 treating upon various subjects in rela-
 tion to a new settlement.

The distance from Deerfield to Vermont
via Illinois, by St Louis in Missouri
 according to tables, is as follows

Deerfield to N. York	171 miles
N. York to Philadelphia	89
Philadelphia to Pittsburg	394
Pittsburg to mouth of Ohio	975
Thence to St Louis	176
Total 1805	
St. Louis to Vermont	82
1887	
The distance from Deerfield to	

San Antonio, by Buffalo, Lake Erie, the
 Maumee & Wabash Canals, and by
 Peoria, is very nearly 1060 miles
 Difference — 873 miles, in favor
 of the Lake route. This will certainly
 be the great traveled route to the cen-
 tral part of Illinois, from this part of
 New England, and Medicine will
 not need 8 days ^{journey} ~~long~~ ^{less}.

Sunday 15 — Fair — last night a cold
 westerly wind brings Hoosac Moun-
 tain temperature and we may
 yet have more snow.

Monday 16 — Fair and cool day
 through very clear air. Cold W. Wind.
Bridgewater Treatises.

A set of Books under this head are
 now published in the U.S. from
 London Editions. under the following
 titles, ^{all} ~~on the~~ ^{on the} ~~power~~, virtue and good-
ness of God.

1. The Adaptation of External Nature
 to the Moral and Intellectual Consti-
 tution of Man. By Rev. Thomas Chubb
 D.D. of Edinburgh University.

2. The Adaptation of External Nature
 to the Physical Condition of man. By John
 Child. M.D. F.R.S. &c.

April

3. Astronomy and General Physics, considered with reference to Natural Theology. By Rev. William Whewell M.A., F.R.S. College Cambridge (England)
4. The Hand; its Mechanism and Vital Endowments as evincing Design. By Sir Charles Bell F.R.S.
5. Animal and Vegetable Physiology. By Peter Marks Rogot. M.D. Fellow of and Secretary to R. Society.
6. Geology & Mineralogy. By Rev. William Buckland, D.D. F.R.S. University of Oxford.
7. The History, Habits and Instincts of Animals. By Rev. William Ferley M.A., F.R.S.
8. Chemistry, Meteorology, and the Function of Digestion. By William Prout M.D., F.R.S.

~~By Buckland's new work on Geology & being the last of the Bridgewater Treatises, with numerous Plates.~~

The foregoing works were published in England ^{by a public subscription} out of a donation left by the Earl of Bridgewater for the purpose. They should be in our Social Library. Published by Leavell, Lea & Blanchard, Philadelphia.

April

1846

Tuesday 19. Fair and cold morning - stormy sky and cloudy part of the day, ^{with hail & sleet at night} from the moderate state of the air most of the month of March we were inclined to expect an early season; but since the cold westerly winds have prevailed most of the present month, our expectations of an early season have abated.

If our summers continue as cool as for a few years past, we must give up our old staple Indian Corn, and substitute the wheat crop, which thrives with a moderate degree of heat. In the State of Maine this crop is becoming ^{an} important article in its agriculture, as will be the case in Massachusetts if the cold seasons continue.

In England wheat is extensively cultivated but no maize or Indian Corn; in France the former ~~is~~ is a good crop and some maize is raised in the southern part; but both countries are too cold for the latter crop, yet neither are efficient in breadstuffs.

1877

April

Wednesday 18. Cloudy, the air warmer than yesterday since the hail and snow, which fell yesterday, gone. Afternoon foggy and somewhat rain.

Thursday 19. - Rain last night and cloudy morning; fair in the afternoon and scattering clouds, though often covering the sky.

Franklin Hoyt, once formerly, and now making preparations to leave my farm with a design to remove to Illinois where my son Arthur offers him a tract of land on advantage as a farm. His stay with me has been five years, during which time ⁴four children have been born in his family, one, the oldest, has deceased; two boys and one infant daughter left. His wife and children are to reside with a connection in Wheatley, while he visits Illinois to make the necessary preparations for his family's removal.

Oliver H. Hoyt and his wife a cousin of Franklin, is to take a lease of my farm for a year.

April.

188

come reside with me, on terms similar
to my former agreement with
~~Franklin~~ Franklin.

Though I had rented my farm on terms
which, I think, advantages to Franklin,
yet such were his ^{that} responses, he was not
willing to to accumulate ^{any} property; and as
he has a family, ^{to support} some effect seemed
necessary to obtain a farm of his own.
Should Illinois be found to suit him
once more ~~healthy~~, I think, he may
place himself in a more advantageous
situation than to remain here. I
hope he will be successful.

After so long a connection in which
no feuds have occurred between us,
a separation cannot but excite ~~some~~
suggestions of regret. The innocent prattle
of the two little boys, & the in-
viting smiles of the infant, as the
receding faculties begin to unfold,
have made tender impressions on my sen-
sibilities, which will not easily be
eradicated. One of the boys bears
my name, and may be here to
render it more valuable than his
precursor. I feel great anxiety
for their welfare as well as for

109. Epine
their parents; and my prayer is that
all may be respectable in society
as well, as easy in their circumstances:
& "When soon or late they reach that coast
"O'er life's rough ocean driven,
"May they rejoice, no wanderer lost,
"A family in Heaven!"
Friday 20. Fair with cold & misty wind
& scattering clouds.

Last evening Mr. Samuel Willard delivered a
lecture, additional to the Deerfield Lectures,
notice page 182.

Professor Hitchcock sends me his Report
on a Re-examination of the Economic Geology
of Massachusetts, dated April 1-1838.
Printed by the Legislature. (See next page)

Continued Copying
Removal of my adopted family — 107.
Change of crops from a change of temperature 108.
Bridge over the Treadwell, in N. H. — 104.
Distances to Illinois — 103.
Deerfield Evening Lectures — 102.
Remarks on Astronomy — 100.
The Cherokee, and removal of — 178.
Admission of workmen in Illinois 176.
Albany Rapids — 174.
Washingtonian's views on — 175.
Letters from Antwerp — 170 & 171.

Contents.

House meetings & remarks on	128
Particulars of the late duel	130
Specimens of Foreign Literature	134
Hopkins's Report on Seminars &c.	135
Three Remarks of the Pres on the Duel	136
Quantity of scap pine trees	138
Plant of the Locust from the Seminars	139
Remarks on the above	140
Rev. Mr. Brooks's journal in Italy	141
Tracing stations in Illinois	143
Arrival of summer Birds	145
Remarks on their migration	146
Pigeons, vast flock, in some times	146
Report on the composition of Symp	148
Rigour Bechevets, importance of	150
Illinois River Boats cankers on	151
Death of Dr. Nathaniel Bowditch	153
of Boston, our great astronomer	155
small Pox among the Indians	156
Stobbing Letter from Illinois	159
Indian mode of Fortification	162
Disturbance on the Illinois Canal	163
Geology to be delivered on Dr. Bowditch	164
Royal Society of Longitude	167
No satisfactory explanation of the rise of sea	168
Estates of wines, Collection of	169
Litchell's Illinois in 1837	172

Sketch Book. No 10

From April 20th 1838

To June 4th 1838.

Part 4^{er}

Written on an old Guild
Book of ~~penicillated~~ Minutes.

April 1838.

190

Saturday 21. Fair, and cloudy
occasionally - not cold

Professor Hitchcock's Report.
By the instructions from the Gov-
ernment of the State, five leading ob-
jects were presented to Geology, the
first of which was the collection
and analysis of soils with a view
to their improvement on chemical
principles; the second the discovery
of coal, marl and ores. These two
objects occupy the principal part
of the report; the 3^d, 4th & 5th are left
for future operations.

The report contains, in a tabular
arrangement, the analysis of soils
collected from different parts
of the State, which must have
required much labor, and if
accurately made, afford useful in-
formation to agriculturists.

In this table a new technical
is given which I have not before
seen used in the description of soils.
This term is Genre and is divid-
ed into soluble genre and insoluble
genre

geine. Dr Dumas definition of the term is given by Geine says he. I mean all decomposed organic matter of the soil. It results chiefly from vegetable decomposition; animal substances produce a similar compound containing azote. Geine exists in two states; soluble and insoluble: soluble both in water and in alkali, in alcohol and acids. It is what was called fraction of vegetable extract. Air converts this soluble into solid geine: It is converted into a substance having acid properties by the action of alkali, and in that state combines with earthy alkalis and oxides, forming neutral salts, which may be termed Geates. Soluble geine is the food of plants.

We have a further definition by Dr Dumas. Geine forms the basis of all the nourishing part of all vegetable manures. The relations of soils to heat and moisture depend chiefly on geine. It is

in fact, while these states of vegetable
rot, guano, and carbonaceous oxides,
the principle which gives fertility
to soils long after the action of com-
mon manure has ceased. See pages
31, 32 & 33.

Among the substances for manure
Green Sand is found to be an
important one. Within a few years
hard it has wrought wonders in
New-Jersey See page 45.

Black Sand is another manure
recommended. Its substance has
been found in the digging of wells
and an instance is mentioned of
it in Deerfield. See page 44. The
importance of Glen, as a manure
is pointed out Page 81. Various modes
of analysing soils are given - page 14

The Report cannot fail of im-
portant use to Scientific farmers.

By an improvement of our soils
the Professor thinks we might sup-
port a greater population, and check
the tide of emigration that sets so
strongly to the west. "Your Sons," says
he, "can be made to see the soil of
New-England doubling its increase

93 Aprile
as I vainly believe they might.
in one or two decades of years, the rich
alluvial soil of the most
valuable not be able to ^{them} ~~grow~~ ^{any}
from the growth of their settlements; espe-
cially if they learn that those fer-
tile regions will at length become
exhausted of their prime and soil,
and then will probably require
as much labor to cultivate as the soils
of Massachusetts.

An increase of fertility in our
soil would no doubt enrich its owners
by increasing its value; but should
this be a reason for inducing those
who own none of it to refuse
the opportunity of obtaining for
themselves, ^{equally good} land in the west, at
a low rate extremely fit for culti-
vation? To poor and industrious
young men the prospects of the west
present ^{or highly promising} ~~rich~~ advantages; and no
considerations of attachment to
the home of their fathers should
operate for a moment to check
a spirit of emigration to the west,
so long as the present prospects con-
tinue so favorable. The time

194

Upore

will covise when forests in that
region will be as expensive as in now,
and equally beyond the power of the
poor man to obtain. Now this
is the case, the poor man here will
be poor there. It follows then, in-
sistently, that he should seize the
present favorable opportunity to
place himself in easy circumstances,
while within his power. The soil
of Massachusetts may be enriched,
and of course ^{become} more valuable; but this
enrichment add any thing to the
prosperity of the man who owns none
of it? If his labor will be of more value
so ~~will~~ ^{will} the lands; and the price will
be too great for him, in a purchase,
and though industrious, when old age
or sickness comes, he may have no
other subsistence than what is found
in a poor house.

A numerous emigration from New England
would be injurious to ~~the~~ ^{its} great landholders
~~in it~~, by depriving them of laborers at a
moderate rate. But these industrious ^{going} men
remain here to enrich the already rich,
and submit to a life of servitude, with
the consolation of an eleemosynary support
in old age.

195

April

Note One remarkable fact relating to the soils of this country is stated by Professor Hitchcock. Viz. That only one in thirty of our soils contains any calcareous matter. This, he says, is so different from the account given in the books of European soils, some of which contain more than 50 per cent, that it is surprising. This he thinks could not always have been the case, especially in limestone regions. But it is known to agricultural chemists that in cultivated fields, calcareous matter is generally changed or consumed.

The deficiency of calcareous ^{matter} is contrary to my observations. In 1801 I resided several months in the town of Phelps in the State of New York, and I often found my shoes whitened with lime, on drying them, after walking in the wet path. Is it likely that this calcareous matter is consumed at this time? Perhaps the professor's remark should be confined to England; ^{though}

April

196

though he says this is the case with the soils of Virginia, as well as some of the western states, even in limestone regions. In an examination of five of the richest soils of Ohio and Illinois he says that although he found calcareous matter in all but one, yet the average quantity was not over 2 per cent. and ~~less~~. he concludes that this matter is one of the great characteristics of the soils in Massachusetts.

See page 16 & 17 -

For remarks on alluvial soils see page 44. where it is asserted that these soils contain less lime in both its forms, than most other varieties, and that they are sooner exhausted than others without constant supplies of lime. "Yet so finely constituted are these soils, that even if exhausted, they are more easily restored than most others; so that taking all things into the account, they are the most valuable of our soils; and yet I doubt whether they produce as much cotton crop as many other soils".

Oct 1868

April

Admitting these facts, it appears that since our floods have become less frequent than formerly, and of course a less quantity of mud is deposited in our interval, it is necessary that the soil should be constantly supplied with manure to insure a good crop. Hence then, the great importance of increasing the quantity of our manures, is obvious; and one object of the Professor's Report is, to bring to view those which may be found in our country existing in a natural state.

Sunday 22. Fair day with occasional clouds, and temperate air; much warmer than it has been. Frogs peep lively.

Monday 23. Fair and clear, northerly wind - air rather cool. Some of our farmers have commenced plowing and I suppose will sow considerable wheat. The collections of the late summer and the pecuniary offered by our government are the inducements, and it is hoped we may soon raise enough for our wants. Perhaps

April.

148

have even the want of calcareous matter
in our soil, will prevent our raising of
wheat in any great quantity.

Experiments ought to be made with
the Whaleby Limestone, which Professor
Hitchcock thinks would answer a
good purpose with a due propor-
tion of manure mixed with it.
Marl, he says is a most valuable
article, in agriculture. It is a
friable mixture of lime and clay,
although the lime is extracted, & beds
of other substances; and from the
nature of our rocks, he says, he
had no hope of finding rich beds of
it in any part of the State except in
the County of Berkshire, where he
has found it in considerable quantities.

The term marl has been used ^{and} ^{applied}
improperly often to substances that con-
tain no carbonate of lime. The
Professor suggest the following nomen-
clature: Silicious marl; aluminous
marl; ferruginous marl; calcareous
marl and green sand marl as
the earths combined with the lime
predominate. See marls in his last
report. page 52.

on

On the use of lime or marl, see page 61 of the Report. On land that is worn out, or whose gine has been exhausted they seem to be of little use; it only cooks the food which exists in the soil and this food is the manure found in the soil (same page). Hence then, when marl is spread upon worn or old land, manure should be spread with it, otherwise there may be no beneficial effect.

Lime is said to be a Nutralizer, a Decomposer and a Converter. page 59. but not the food of plants.

From the foregoing principles it appears that no combination of earths can become permanently fertile, but they must be supplied with gine. In new countries where the mould is deep, the gine may continue for years, but it will at length be exhausted. In the old French settlements in the American Bottom in Illinois, the soil has been cultivated for 100 years, without supplying manure; but may not the land have been supplied with alluvia from the floods of the Mississippi?

April.

200

Thursday 24 Cold freezing last night
conclary morn, inclining snow.
afternoon clear and pleasant.

I have just completed the reading
of a small work intitled, The Eternity
of the Universe by G. H. Toulmin
M.D. printed at Philadelphia
1830.

The author has collected many facts
^{relative to} the revolutions of our globe,
the physical operations of nature.
The author also seizes of ancient
nations, even the ^{as far as the} hebrews, Greeks,
&c. are written in handsome lan-
guage and with considerable ingenu-
ity. But admitting the whole of
his statements are phenomena
as correct, I must confess, that I can
not perceive one argument, in
the work, of any force, in favor
of his main position. All his phe-
nomena are so easily accounted for
on the supposition that the Universe
had a beginning, as that it existed
from eternity. And on what he relies
for his proofs. I am at a loss.

Whether he adopts the scheme of
the

the Panthists, as respects a God, I am also at a loss. From the following I should be inclined to derive the origin with them. The steps —

"If the want of a Cause equal to its (Haldane's) production could be an objection to its eternal existence; the want of a Cause equal to the production of superior magnificence, must be ^{as strong} stronger objection. Something must exist; and as nothing could produce nothing, something must have existed uncaused from all eternity. That uncaused existence is the human species, the surrounding worlds, the supreme intelligence; together with those fountains of light and life, the immovable suns that blaze in the wide expanse of the universe, with lustre undiminished & eternal"

Again: "Thus must it most evidently appear, that every step we advance beyond the universe, is relinquishing a sublime, and infinite, and certain existence in search of an existence removing from the evidence of our senses. And in production, too, we advance in such

speculations, in that proportion
 must ^{ever} increase our difficulties.
 For again, let me observe, that the
 unbounded existence which could produce
 the Universe, itself infinitely splendid,
 superb, and intelligent, must needs
 be still more wonderful
 and superb than that universe or
 creature, which they are said to have
 produced. And consequently there
 is greater difficulty in conceiving them
 self-existent, than in conceiving the
 unbounded and stupendous universe
 self-existent.

At the close of the work, we have the
 following, which seems to be of a ano-
 ther import

"^{than} yet by endeavoring to establish the eterni-
 ty of the Universe, and existing things
 upon their own certain foundation,
 I have by no means been led to dispute,
 but most strenuously, though inade-
 quately, to expose the astonishing splen-
 dor and magnificence of existence.
 And so far as the arguments that I
 have made use of, from having the
 smallest tendency to damp our great
 and only consolation, the universal

April.

animating expectation of future being, splendour and felicity, that they open the most brilliant and glorious prospects of an indestructible, bright, permanent, and intelligent state of future and inconceivable happiness; they enforce the excellence of moral rectitude; and the existence of a Supreme Being— infinite in wisdom, goodness, and intelligence." — Is this reconcilable to other parts of his theory? —

Whether ^{the} Universe has existed eternally, or has been created in time, is a problem whose solution bids defiance to man; and could it be solved, what importance would be derived from it? So far as regards the Solar system, we have indubitable proofs that it has existed for a long time; that the machine which it constitutes it, is a ~~very~~ perfect one; and we are well acquainted with its various parts — their distances, periods, the position and eccentricities of their orbits, and can tell their places in the heavens with great precision, —

April

204

As long as the present machine con-
tinues. Nor have we any reason
to suppose that its movements
would be more regular or better
determined, had they been the same
eternally. Nor would the profound
labors of a Newton, a La Place, and
others, ~~have~~ been rendered less import-
ant and useful than they are at
this period. With regard to its fu-
ture direction, if we may rely on the
investigation of our late astronomers,
we may be sure — it will be changed,
unless the Great Governor of the Uni-
verse interposes and stops the ma-
chine. And if this is to take
place it is known only to that
Being. — My new family, Obed H. Hoyt
and wife, came to reside with me
this day (April 24th).

Wednesday 25. Fair & cold, with
the day pleasant and free from
clouds.

Franklin Hoyt, wife and Children
left my house and proceeded to Whately
to reside with Mr. Smith a connection.

During her residence at my house Mrs. Hoyt has uniformly exhibited a kind and tender disposition towards me, and performed her duty in her various departments according to the best of her abilities, and I have cheerfully expressed my satisfaction for her endeavours. Franklin Hoyt, her husband, unfortunately has not been able to earn property, so as to render the circumstances of his family easy. He is not destitute of industry nor activity, but seems to want the speculative art of those who know how to accumulate profit from every mite that falls in their way.

His present design is to make a visit to Illinois with a view of procuring a farm; but probably he will not be able to go until the fall season.

In parting from the little boys born in my house, and grown to develop the ^{rational} ~~reasoning~~ faculties in a considerable degree, and to exhibit their little antic sports, and semicautful and innocent pranks, was cutting to my

April.

206

feelings, since it requires some effort to suppress a weeping tear. Is this emotion to be attributed to generosity? or rather, is it not from a refined sensibility which every good heart feels towards the innocent beings of our species in their infancy. Whatever may be thought of such emotions, I am bold to say, they are estimable traits in the character of human beings, since should be cherished. Even the rough soldier is not callous to these tender feelings.

I have somewhere read the following anecdote. In one of the revolutionary skirmishes in a street in Paris, a young child was seen between the hostile lines, exposed to the shot, a soldier darted from the ranks, rushed forward among the flying balls, seized the child and brought it off safely. What an act! Gallant soldier!

Cowards are cruel, but the brave, Love mercy and delight to save."

Nothing is more rapidly true than this couplet. A savage may be ferocious; but ferocity is not bravery. Bravery is cool and reflecting; ferocity rash, ~~and~~ and uncertain.

207

April

Thursday 24 Cloudy day with
mist and calm air. moderate

Report of Newton Rice Road
Corporation (Massachusetts) 1836-7

by Wm. Gibbs McNeill

George W. Whistler

W. H. Swift - Engineers.

The first two sign as Engineers, and
the last, as Resident Engineer.

What is the meaning of this? Are all the
Gentlemen engaged on our Roads? Ah
McNeill is sometimes called Chief
Engineer. Perhaps they have formed
a company to carry on works of this kind,
~~and~~ divide the profits - and engross the
engineering business of the U. States.

The Report contains two im-
perfect maps, embracing the route be-
tween Worcester and the west line
of our State; from which it appears
that the route are very serpentine.
The western section takes a direction
from the upper part of Westfield
River northward, through Hinsdale
Dalton & Pittsfield; then curves
southward into Richmond and
west Stockbridge, and then turns
west

April

208

across the line of our State. From the
point of intersection to Albany, the dis-
tance is stated at 38 miles. The route
selected may be the least expensive;
but if the object is to accommodate
the State, it is to be regretted that a
more central one was not chosen,
say, near Northampton or Hatfield,
if practicable. By carrying the
road so far south as Springfield, the
northern part of the State can receive
little benefit from it. What traveller
to Boston or Albany, from our part
of the State, will go by Springfield?
He may indeed intersect the road at
Worcester or Hinsdale, but what great
advantage will accrue from this?
Our northern people, perhaps, flatter
themselves that another Rail Road
will be constructed in this part of
the State at some future time, and
therefore they rest easy with the pre-
sent location; but this is very doubt-
ful. I am friendly to Rail roads, but
when they are constructed at the public
expense, I am desirous that they should
accommodate those who pay for them.
In

April.

In the evening we had a Lecture at our school house from a Mr Bacon of Innum. Boston, on the subject of Slavery. He is here on a visit to a connection of his in this town, and having attended our last lecture, volunteered his service. I was not present but am informed that he acquitted himself to the satisfaction of the audience, by showing the injustice and wickedness of Slavery. We have among us a few who seem to favor the continuance of Slavery, though they do not directly acknowledge it; but attempt it to disguise their sentiments by opposing immediate emancipation. Such, it appears to me, ~~must~~ cannot have taken a full view of the nefarious practice; or they have blunter than reasoning faculties.

To say that they delight in the sufferings and wrongs of our fellow creatures, whom God has created with noble complections, would be going beyond my belief. Such turpitude I cannot impute to any born or educated in New England. If

April.

210

If there are any such among us, I wish them more light and less cleanness of heart.

Friday 29 - Cloudy morn, rain last night. Afternoon fair.

The New York papers state, that two large steam vessels, from England, have arrived at that port, after passages of about 14 or 15 days; the winds were against them most of the voyage, yet they had a rapid run, and it is said important improvements have been made in the machinery, which remove the danger of bursting the boilers. It is hoped this is true. The vessels are provided with masts and sails, to be used when the wind is aft. The rate of sailing of these vessels, must have been about 200 miles per day on an average. What a triumph of science and art! To what a height of perfection, may not man arrive by the study of nature!

The "Bird Hatchery on the Hudson" now wings its rapid flight across the Atlantic in the face of winds and waves, and distant countries have now become neighbors - and may they not be brothers and brethren ere long?

Saturday 28. Cloudy morn. and
 through ^{most of} the day, with some rain in
 afternoon - air mild - clear at Sun. set.

The elopement of my late family
 with its pretty boys, produces a
~~edness~~ in my house, ~~which is not~~
 a sort of ennui, and I begin to feel
 a want of more company. A friend
 now comes then calls in and converses
 upon the news of the day and the
 affairs of the village. But my Books
 are still a source of instruction and
 amusement; and though I have ac-
 cess to a good Library for a country
 one, besides my own, I am in want
 of many late writers, particu-
 larly on scientific subjects.

Sunday 29 Cloudy morn - Sun out
 before noon, and clear and broken
 clouds in afternoon - air mild, or
 rather warm.

Monday 30. Fair with westerly
 winds & cool & calm.

Perusing Dr. Rees's Illustrations
of New York - The first 5 Chap.
 of which, I think truly a useful
 for checking the gullibility of the
 world at this time.

April

212

The other 2 Chapters on Utter Germanism, Utter Abolitionism, Utter Protestantism and Utter Sectarianism, though not entirely extraneous to it, I think contain much objectionable matter, particularly his Chap on Utter Abolitionism. In this Chap the author endeavors to reconcile slavery with scripture, and in fact indirectly justifies the murders and atrocities that have been committed by the crimals and abettors of Slavery.

His plan is that these Utters go beyond the Bible; of this he ^{is} ~~is~~ ^{seems} ~~appears~~ to be the judge, in many instances without very just discrimination. The castigation he gives to many informed clergies in New York no doubt are well applied, and ^{such} ~~these~~ are always found in abundance in our popular lectures, whose trade and circuity are the summum bonum of a large majority. Some learned men are found there, but these are in the back ground, and if not politicians, ^{or lawyers} are little known by the multitude.

Tuesday 1. Fair and rather cool - ground froze last night but a pleasant day, with westerly wind.

This day our militia assembled by companies to exhibit their arms and equipments to their officers, for a general return of the ~~state of the~~ militia in the State; but such is the apathy of the ^{officers} men that the returns of the companies must be very inaccurate. Our militia is said to be at a low ebb, because there is so little spirit in the men to perform militia duty. But the fact is, all that our was of any value in these times, still remains viz. the enrollment. Any discipline of the present number is totally useless. It is enough that their names are on the roll, ready to be detached on an emergency. It is important however that we should have a body of troops ready and fit for service at all times, beside our small standing army; but in this plan, volunteers must be raised and discipline at the public expense, and their arms and equipments

involved in the same way. But the general sentiment of the people seems to be averse to such a plan; and the occurrence of another militia war, with all its dissensions and confusion, will ~~be~~ ^{be} connect this erroneous sentiment. Our present reliance on the militia may be ranking among the rumors of Dr. Reese. Our safety is in wide attention; but this will be at an end, when a powerful nation shall border on our territory. To the impatient subject Congress appears to be indifferent; and it would be no impossible event, in case of a war, were they to be driven from their capital, ^{where} smoking in its ruins. Our political men have yet much to learn besides the principles of banks and banking, which now engrosses their chief attention. An increase of our regular force is evidently called for at this time, but this will be permitted to sleep with the plan of a new organization of the militia, sometimes talked of by military men who see our weakness as a nation.

May.

Wednesday 2. Fine and pleasant
 day - the sky somewhat hazy -
^{2. Dandy at night.}
 Franklin Hunt & his brother Alfred,
 I am informed, left Wexley, ^{2. Dandy} last mon-
 day morn, the 30th ret. for Illinois
 This sudden and unexpected depart-
 ure is involved in mystery for which
 I cannot readily account. I find he
 has left debts unpaid, and why
 and by what means he became
 in debt I cannot divine. To say
 the least he is an unfortunate man,
 even though I am a pecuniary
 sufferer by him. I wish him well.
 and hope he will find means
 to support his family, for whom
 I feel deep pity.

mailed Letter to Son Arthur
 at Peoria, Illinois.

Thursday 3. Rain last night &
 even cloudy morn with some rain,
 and cloudy most of the day.

A Discourse on the Life & Character
 of the Hon. Nathaniel Bowditch
 L.L.D., F.R.S., delivered in the Church
 on Church Green March 25. 1838
 By Samuel Young. Boston

This discourse is printed at Boston in a pamphlet of 119 pages and contains much information of Dr. Bowditch from his birth to his death. Mr. Young is the minister of the religious society, in Boston, to which the Dr. belonged, and of course had opportunity to acquire ^{full} knowledge of him, and the biography he has given is very interesting.

In his conclusion he has the following: "Above all Dr. Bowditch has left us a most glorious legacy in his example of integrity, love of truth, moral courage, and independence. He has taught the young men here, and the world over, that there is nothing so precious and beautiful as moral principle, nothing so sublime as ~~truth~~ adherence to truth, and right, and duty, through good report and through evil report. He has indeed, blessed the world greatly by his science and practical wisdom; but quite as much, nay far more, I think, by his uprightness and manly character. He has taught mankind that

reverence for duty, and trust in
 Providence, and submission to his
 will, and faith in the rectitude
 of all of his appointments, and
 a filial reliance upon his love,
 are sentiments not unworthy
 nor unbecoming the greatest phi-
 losopher. Born at Salem Mass. 1
 26-1773. Died 16th March 1838. The
 2^d Edition of The New American
Practical Navigator was issued in
 the year 1800, at his age of 27 years.

It has run through many editions
 the last in 1837, in which he was
 assisted by his son J. Ingensoll Baw-
 etitch, who compiled most of the
 new tables, and carefully examined
 those which were taken from other
 works. The work is since now to be
 extensively used in the British and
 French navies, and by every American
 Ship. He began the translation
 of La Place's "Mechanique Celeste", in
 1815 and finished it in two years;
 the Community kept pace with
 the Translation. A work I be-
 lieve in 4 parts. Vols [mailed
 another letter to within my son.]

May

218

Died in our village the widow Eunice Arms, aged 94 years, and months, consort of the late Jonathan Arms.

Friday 4. Fair morn, cool. Much cloudiness throughout the day. The Legislature of this Commonwealth was prorogued on the 25th of April. They have been in session from the 1st of January, of this year, making 113 days - a longer session than usual; even notwithstanding the reduction of numbers from the last ^{year}, the pay roll amounts to an enormous and unnecessary sum. So long as the expense of the Government of the little State of Massachusetts continues as it has been, it will be impossible to grant money for ~~other~~ worthy objects, which are called for.

Extravagance in expenses has been and still is, the curse of the day; ~~and~~ in this our commonwealth it is to be feared, and some country towns are ready to copy them. The following is a specimen of this extravagance, stated in a Boston paper. "The School

that passed through Boston on Thursday, was sold at N. York on Friday, at \$2 per lb. It weighed 22 1/2 lbs, and brought \$45. It was consumed at the Astor house."

About the time I commenced Chaise keeping, a Salmon, of equal weight might be purchased at Deerfield for about a dollar, and a shad for 2 or 3 coppers. The simple wants of nature are few, those of what are called high life are boundless. The former brings ease, contentment and happiness, the latter artificial wants, discontent and often misery. In the choice of the two wise men will not hesitate.

At evening received a Letter from Arthur, dated Paris Illinois April 20th. Says all well {Part marked a price 22[¢] = 12 days per page}.

Saturday 5. Rainy morning and continued most of the day.

By the Boston Courier of May 3rd we have the ~~account~~ ^{horrible} account of the ^{by the} destruction of the new Steam Boat Mosely, at Luncenburg, on the 25th of

large
 estimated with the loss of 125 people.
 Another account says 200 to 230 or 240.
 The whole number on board estimated
 at about 300, said to be principally
 Germans. These accounts are very un-
 certain, as relates to the numbers; many
 names are given, but many ^{are} unknown.
 The Capt. (Perin) was killed, and it
 is said the disaster occurred through
 his imprudence, in forcing the steamer.
 We are in fear that the Steamer's
 who left Davenport for St. Louis on
 the 14th instant were on board. The
 explosion is represented as dead-
 end indeed; the bodies of the killed,
 in some instances, were thrown up
 the shores of the River, and some over
 the houses in immediate river steam
 boats be able to sustain a reputa-
 tion much longer, unless their accident
 can be avoided. In England we
 hear of very few of these, and why
 is this? It is said that nation has
 strict laws for their regulation,
 and why not in this country. Con-
 gress has done something but I know
 not what. Another accident has occurred on
 Lake Erie, from a collision of two boats.

In steam navigation, is the pressure on the boiler in direct proportion to the velocity of the boat? If so, lessen the velocity to about one half, and not re-proportioned, merely to save time. This half speed would satisfy rational men. If a boat from N. Orleans now makes a passage in 6 or eight days to St. Louis, who would regret 12 or 14 days, could ~~then~~ safely be insured. Formerly, from 2 to 3 months were spent in ascending the River from the former to the latter place, in keel boats, by hand labor; what a gain it would be to make the same passage in 12 or 14 days with out labor. If men cannot be contented with such easy speed, they ^{will} suffer for their foolish endeavors to fly. We are not birds, but too legged animals, who must submit to move, as nature intended we should. Improvements may be made in the steam engine to render it more secure; but it is doubtful whether the prodigious power of steam, in the boiler, can be ^{kept} more agree with perfect safety.

Sunday 6 Cloudy morn; rain last night and rain in the forenoon. afternoon fair.

Our trees retain their winter aspect, ~~and~~ the season holds back, and no warming southern breezes prevail. We are certainly in a cold region for Lat. 42° 32'; the west coast of Europe presents nothing like it, at this season in our latitude.

Monday 7. Fair, and broken clouds last night much rain fell. Small shower in the afternoon. Mailed a letter directed to C. A. Annis, at Danville, Illinois; including one to Catharine on the same sheet, & an inclosure to him.

Orations and Speeches on various occasions, By Edward Everett (now Governor of this Commonwealth) 1801. 8vo. 637 pages

These orations &c. delivered at various times, ^{in Mass} were collected & published in 1834, by the American Stationers Company, amounting in the whole to 27; and make up a respectable volume of excellent

matter, highly creditable to the orator. Three were delivered in the west-ern States, viz: at Nashville, Tennessee; Lexington, Kentucky, and the yellow springs, Ohio: they were speeches delivered at public dinners to which Gov. Everett was invited, during his tour through those States, in 1829.

Gov. Everett is certainly a rare man, and evidently possesses a great fund of knowledge on all subjects on which he touches in public life. — a master-hand, whether History, Science, arts or belles lettres, and must have a very retentive memory. In many, if not all instances, he delivers his addresses without recouring to notes, and probably never puts them into writing, ^{in full} until they are spoken.

This is a habit which appears to me extremely difficult, and to which few men can arrive. Much no doubt depends on habit; but the difficulty with most men, is to keep up a chain, ^{including} and make a judicious choice of words. The

some time. By attention to one, the other is apt to slip through the mind and embarrass the speaker. As a popular orator, perhaps we have ^{Mr. G's} nothing equal. We hope that his present engagements may not impair his oratorical talents, as I think, those of a Chief Magistrate have a tendency.

Tuesday 8 Fair and cloudy alternately through the day, with some rain.

Iowa Territory. All the country on the west of the Mississippi, formerly included in Wisconsin, is to form a new territory by that name, after the 3^d of July next (say the papers) according to act of Congress. It will form a good State when peopled, adjoining South on Missouri, and east on the Mississippi, and has several rivers of a good size. Immigrants are flocking to the territory.

Died at Saratoga Spring, Dr. John H. Fleet, author of an analysis of the Mineral waters of Saratoga. Ballston, aged 58 years. I was formerly acquainted with him; he was a

Boon Companion a man of science and an approved physician. In his analysis of the Springs, he gave the Geology of the County of Saratoga which was esteemed as valuable by geologists; ~~and~~ his advice to the numerous visitors to the Springs, in relation to ^{the} use of the waters, was duly estimated by them ~~and~~ many will regret his loss.

Wednesday 9. Raining most of forenoon. Fair & some rain afternoon.

The news papers inform us that a destructive fire took in the City of Charleston S.C. on the 27th of April. Fire continued until noon the next day, by which many hundred buildings were destroyed, most of which are supposed to be of wood.

If people were clustered into Cities they should build with stone or brick; other materials are liable to destruction by fire. If it be said that we cannot thus build, then it follows that clustered Cities are not the place for them; they should remain in the open country where they will be

upward. A clustered city of wooden
buildings ought never to be
where stone or brick cannot be obtained,
the ground should be appropriated
to other purposes. But it would be
well to say the latter cannot be obtained
of Chesham, by men of property; and
as the requisite labour they should
witness - buildings of this material.
If this would retard the growth of a
place, so be it. Let no place grow faster
than ~~the~~ safety will permit.

When a favourable place is found for
~~trading station~~ ^{commerce}, and it is intended to cluster
it with buildings, the first question should
be - Can the necessary incombustible ma-
terials be obtained for them? If not,
the place is ineligible, and should not
be attempted upon a large scale, one
of the ^{great} errors of our country.

Boston once consisted ^{principally} of wooden buildings
and what was the consequence? Destruction
time after time. This difficulty is
now removed, and we seldom see
great destruction from conflagrations.
The city has a well regulated fire de-
partment, it is true; but the greatest se-
curity is from its stone and brick edifices.

Thursday 10. Cloudy morning with some rain; - after part of the day cloudy a fair afternoon, with a ~~small~~ shower.

Whewell's treatise on Astronomy and General Physics considered with reference to Natural Theology.

This is one of the Bridgewater Treat. is on the power wisdom and goodness of God, as manifested in the Creation. Its object, says the author, is to lead the friends of religion to look with confidence and pleasure on the progress of the physical sciences, by showing how admirably every evidence in our knowledge of the universe harmonizes with the belief of a most wise and good God. After the Introduction, it is divided into 3 Books: the 1st Terrestrial Adaptations; 2. Cosmical arrangements; the 3^d Religious views.

The ^{work} exhibits considerable research and knowledge of nature, and draws forcible proofs, from terrestrial adaptations, of the existence

May.

228.

for designing and overruling camp.
The author is sometimes a little ambiguous, or rather ^{cohort} but I can readily conceive; and I think a few explanatory diagrams are wanted for elucidation of his positions.

In the 8th Chap. of the 2^d Book, he attempts to prove the existence of a Resisting Medium in the solar system, which ^{he} appears to me ~~as~~ doubtful. By the "celestial mathematical astronomers" we have been assured of the stability of the solar system, which cannot be true, if such a medium exists. Of this the author is aware. He says "The main point which we had to urge, in the consideration of the stability of the system, was, not that it is constructed to last forever, but that while it lasts, the deviations from its mean condition are very small." We conceive that this state of things has had a beginning; we conceive that it will have an end". See page 159.

The point of the work on Religious views, corresponds generally with the sentiments of many sensible people.

The work appears to me to be valuable, and worthy the attention of the philosopher.

On the subject of Light the author seems to the opinion, that it is propagated by vibrations through a highly subtle and elastic ether, instead of emission of luminous particles. ~~as has~~ been generally supposed. Page 104.

Mr Whewell is a clergyman, fellow and tutor of Trinity College, Cambridge (England); yet he ^{seems to be} ~~is~~ the licewell by Sectarianism. Also author of Thoughts on the Study of Mathematics as a part of liberal education, noticed in Sketch Book No. 9, page 199.

Friday 11. Fair with broken clouds & occasional sun shine. The weather remains cool and the apple trees are forward. Still retain their winter aspect. Forward apple blossoms were generally seen by the middle of May, and sometimes earlier. An allusion has taken place ^{in climate} some causes which are not certain.

May

230

Saturday 12. Fair but hazy and
scattering clouds.
Our farmers are planting their Indian
corn, though without great expect-
ations of a large crop. Several pre-
ceding years have taught them that
it is an uncertain one. In general
they procure seed of the earliest kind
some of which produced a pretty good
crop ^{last year} but from the old kind
it hardly ripened. Time will
not the earlier seed become later
by frequent planting in our cli-
mate? If the crop, which has hitherto
been considered the great staple by
our farmers, should fail, it will be
a great blow back upon their already
scanty profits; and notwithstanding
the goodness of our alluvial soil,
it is a fact, that our farmers are
making little advance in point
of prosperity. A good pasturing farm
in our hill towns, is much more
profitable - a truth which will be
acknowledged by all who have
thoroughly examined the circum-
stances in relation to them.

Emancipation in the West Indies.

Lyons. Thorne and Kimball have
 published a Gown in the West Indies,
 from which it appears that the
 plan of the British Government to
 abolish Slavery is successful in Anti-
 quity, and of the most gratifying cha-
 racter. Gov. Everett, who has perused
 the town, says - "It has given me new
 views of the practicability of mancipa-
 tion. It has been effected in Antigua,
 as appears from unquestionable evi-
 dences contained in the work of M^r 32
 H, not merely without danger to the
 master, but without ^{any} sacrifice of his
 interest". The experiment, if successful
 he has concluded, "would seal the
 fate of slavery throughout the civilized
 world". - Will the Southern States be
 usefully instructed in regard to their
 welfare, by this result? The Gov. thinks
 that the information collected in the vol.
 will have a powerful effect on pub-
 lic opinion, not only in the Northern
 States but in the Slave holding States.

Heaven grant that it may work
out the freedom of the Slaves in the U States

May

232

Sunday 13. Fair sun and pleasant day. Leaves of Lilacs appearing.

By Dr. Williams, our Physician, I am informed that a sort of Influenza is now prevalent in the vicinity of his practice, and that in some instances nearly the whole families are afflicted with it.

In the 2^d Vol. of Dr. Rush's Medical Language, page 250, we find a description of the symptoms of the disease as they appeared in 1789, 1790 & 1791, with an account of the weather which preceded it.

This disease, the Doct. says, passes with the utmost rapidity through a country and affects the greatest number of people, in a given time, of any contagious disease in the world; and he says it is certainly a contagious disease as the measles or small pox, and is not independent of the sensible qualities of the air.

Is the Doct. correct in this position? Does not the fact of its rapid spread over a country, prove that it is generated from atmospheric influence?

MayMonday 14 Fair & sunny day -

Some of our street maples, ^{elms} ~~and~~ the
 pears in my garden, this morning, exhibit
 a little greenness at the extremity of their
 limbs, and vegetation seems to be
 struggling into life. An increase of heat
 would soon put on a lively aspect,
 and rouse our animal spirits from
 the torpor induced by the preceding cold
 season. We sit comfortably with our
 windows up, in the afternoon.

Received a letter from Arthur, Paris,
^{dated} May 3. 1830. acknowledging the
 receipt of one from me May 2. mine
 was dated April 12th. Why so long
 on the passage? No mention of
 the arrival of the young Stebens,
 who left home April 14th.

Tuesday 15 Fair and pretty
warm day.

Another Steam Boat disaster.
 on the 21st of April the Boat
 Oranoko, off Princeton N.J. collapsed
^{in the} ~~the~~ boiler, blew up, and killed
 & drowned about 75 people!
 What prudent man will venture
 himself on board of one of these volcanoes

May.

234

unless a thorough change is made in
their management, or measures taken
to remedy their defects. In the course
of the present season, probably many 1000
more lives will be lost on the western
rivers. This mode of navigation, so im-
portant to the western States, will be
less practiced, unless some remedy be pro-
vided. Will Congress still neglect to
make some efforts for this end? Let
something be done by the way of
improvement, at least. Every commander
guilty of neglect, or ignorance of his duty,
should be punished with severity.

As the nature of a collapse I am not
^{very} acquainted. Is it a sudden condensa-
tion of the steam in the boiler? and if
so, what is the cause of this condensation?
In case of such condensation the pressure
on the exterior of the boiler will not
exceed that of the atmosphere; and
it is supposed the boiler is of suffi-
cient strength to resist this pressure.
Perhaps however when much heated
it may become too flexible and yield
inward; whence then the explosion.
which is said to take place at the time.

May

For much information on the bursting
 of boilers and the ^{dis}generation of Stearns,
 in these vessels, See Report ~~from~~ a
 select Committee of Congress, May 18th 1832
 with its accompanying documents, in
 a thick pamphlet of 192 pages. The
 Committee reported a Bill, as the out-
 line of a law, for the better security
 of the lives of passengers on board of ves-
 sels propelled in whole or in part by
 steam; but it was not passed into an
 Act. The Report was called Wickliffe's
 suppose Chairman of the Committee
 (See sketch book No 5, page 134.)
 5) This day Mr. Joseph Cleason, his
 wife, mother and nine children
 sat out for Illinois, by Buffalo &
 Cleveland, to form a settlement in that
 State. An arduous journey with
 so large a family. He left Deer
 field in a covered wagon with
 two horses; intends to proceed to
 Cleveland & thence, such route
 as circumstances shall dictate, prob-
 ably by Chicago, on Lake Michi-
 gan. The distance from Deerfield
 to that place, by the lake route, is 1100
 words, of 1600 miles + 200 to Shelbyville

2 May

Wednesday 16 Fine morn; after
noon cloudy with a brisk southerly wind.
The air soft - vegetation pushing ahead.
Peaches are said to have blossomed.
Thursday 17 Cloudy morn; but fair
rest of the day, with scattering clouds.
Moderately warm. Plum blossoms out.

Friday 18 Cloudy and rainy
forenoon and broken clouds the
rest of the day. Air cool, at 3 P.M. the
thermometer at 52°: on the 16th instant,
as high as 80°. Why such variations?
Received a pamphlet by mail entitled
a letter to Hon. Daniel Webster, on the
Political affairs of the United States
By Marcellus.

Printed at Philadelphia: 1837.
Who the writer is I know not; but he
seems to be one who understands
his subject, and advances his opin-
ions without fear or favor. He
boldly attacks many of the opinions
of the times, in relation to our principles
of government; and believes there
are defects in our federal as well as
state constitutions, which must be
corrected or ruin will follow. Many

his opinions will be considered
as anti-republican, if not monarch-
ical, by men who profess to be
the friends of liberty and equal rights.

But if we are to judge from the
present state of affairs in the U.S.,
we must conclude that something
is wrong in the machine of govern-
ment, or in its administration.

"We are, he says, "subjected to injustice
and tyranny in a thousand ways.
For 30 years past, party spirit has
produced a constant series of oppression,
the triumphant party using its pow-
er to deprive the defeated party of
its rights. The prescription inflicted
on men in office for holding ~~parti-~~
~~es~~ political principles different
from the dominant party, are
among the most detestable acts
of tyranny".

"One thing, he says, is certain, that
the election of the chief magistrate
must be conducted in some way
that shall effectually prevent in-
triguing for the office. If this cannot
be effected, the constitution,

in securing a just administration
and equal rights, is not worth a
straw". // His opinion are worthy of
consideration, and perhaps within
a few years, they will not be viewed
in so unfavorable light as now.
He does not yet despair of the Republic,
but thinks the hope of its continuance
must be abandoned, unless the great
men of our country will lay aside party
shife, and unite in some vigorous
effort to amend the defects of our
Constitution. "The leading men must
cease to expend their breath in squab-
bling about banks and monopolies and
inflation currency, and mount up to
the source of our public evils. There-
only can ~~any~~ be applied the cathartic
on which shall be efficacious in re-
storing to the confederacy health and
soundness."

The hope that the election of a good
President will remedy our evils, he thinks
deceitful: the elevation would be tempo-
rary; for there are defects in our
form of government, and errors in
popular opinions, that no administration

rectify; and until such defects are amended, and such errors corrected, we shall continue to be a divided, distracted community; incessantly agitated by violent factions; each in its turn triumphing and opposing the other.

Saturday 19. Fair, but foggy morning. Clear most of the day & pleasantly warm.

Sunday 20. Fair and very pleasant day. Blossom. of Pears begin to show in my garden.

Monday 21. Fair day, with warm southerly wind.

A Philadelphia paper of 16th May says a portion of the lockash and Erie canal is already finished, and notice is given that boats will commence running on the 16th instant. It runs from Wayne & Logansport; the distance about 100 miles, through the very heart of the richest agricultural region in Indiana. That no less than 300 new buildings are going up in Quincy in Illinois a town on the Mississippi, 125 miles above mouth of the Illinois River. Tuesday

Tuesday 22. Cloudy and foggy morning
 last night with much shower ~~last night~~
 moderate; heavy blazes appear.
 birds continue most of the day.
 From English papers we learn that
 the corps of last year, the Hudson Bay
 Company sent an exploring party to
 examine the northern coast of America,
 and that they have ^{been} successful. The party
 proceeded westward from the Mouth of
 the Kennebec River, keeping along the coast
 of the northern sea, to about the Long.
 159° W. in Lat 70° or 71°, which point had
 been previously reached by ships that
 had passed ^{Behning Strait and} Icy Cape. The north coast
 of America is now surveyed from Icy
 Cape to Cape Swinagain, eastward of
 Coppermine River; leaving but a point
 north of Hudson's Bay to explore. ~~and~~
 it is now ascertained that Greenland
 is separated from the American Con-
 tinent, and that a sea extends from
 Baffin's Bay to Behning's Strait. As the
 sea is generally filled with ice, with
 occasional openings, the passage of-
 fers no practicable route for ships.
 The country, cold as it is, furnishes a
 A of support for some tribes of Indians.

Wednesday 23 Fair in the forenoon
 Cloudy & some rain in the afternoon.
 Apple trees begin to show the colours
 of their blossoms, (yesterday) and a few
 blossoms are falling out. Plum trees are
 very full.

A mob in Philadelphia.

On Wednesday last (12th inst.) there
 was a large collection of people
 at the Pennsylvania Hall to attend
 a lecture from Mr Garrison on Slavery.
 At the close of the Lecture part of the
 audience became noisy. Several other
 lectures were attended by females; viz.
 Mrs Chapman of Boston Mrs Wild (female)
 Grinker Miss Mott and Kelley of
 N. York City. A mob began to throw
 missiles into the ^{at the close of} windows. The next
 day, in the evening, a crowd attacked
 the Hall and finally set it on fire
 & it was consumed. The Mayor &
 Sheriff exerted themselves to stop
 the disorder, but in vain. The En-
 gines hastened to the spot, but the
 mob would not allow them to
 throw ^{a drop of} water upon the building, and
 it was suffered to burn. The firemen

May

243

of mobs within the United States
an alarming circumstance, and those
who believe that our system of Govern-
ment is defective will be confirmed in
the opinions they have expressed of its
failure. Legislatures may enact laws
but they cannot ~~enforce~~ them when
they become unpopular. A mob may
prostrate them at their will. This
once suffered, serves as a stimulus to
further effluvia, and where it will
end, who can tell? Should that laws
legally enacted must be enforced so
long as they are laws. But in this coun-
try where is the power to enforce
them? When unpopular the Posse Com-
tatus will not do it. If the militia
in militia they will not do it,
and we have no other force to apply.
If then comes to this: as soon as a
law becomes unpopular the Legisla-
ture must repeal it ^{whether} right or wrong.
What then remain Legislatures but
laws! This state of things is alarm-
ing, and evinces that something is
wrong in our system of Government.
But let us not yet despair of a free
Government. Let us hope that some
thing

May.

thing more yet he found out to
 remedy the evils which now exist,
 and that man in the exercise of his
 rights will be able to sustain a gov-
 ernment of the people without in-
 justice and infringement ^{the} on rights of
 individuals. We are at present
 a distant people; but it is hoped
 we will not long be able to return
 us to reason, and open our eyes to
 our danger. We boast much of the
 knowledge of the people, but one
 thing is certain, we have yet much
to learn. The cost of the Hall de-
 stroyed, is said to have been 40,000
 Dollars (perhaps too high an estimate
 or common error in such cases). ~~The~~
~~Building~~ ^{one} lately erected for a place
 of free discussion on all subjects. Its
 destruction by a mob, furnishes a
 fair proof that these discussions have
 no useful effect on men, who have
 laid aside their reasoning faculties,
 and are fast verging to a state of
 despotism - the only government
 under which they are calculated
 to exist. ^{The effect of} ~~Republicanism~~ in the hearts
 of such men is preposterous, and

liberty a solecism. They might
make good subjects of the Emperor and
Sovereign, but have no claims to freedom
the name of American Citizens. How
and spirit should be fixed upon
their foreheads as a motto, and the
word held over them in terror.

Thursday 24. In the morning the
sun appeared but was soon covered
with clouds which continued most of the
day. Apple blossoms nearly out.

Yesterday the party of Indians who
visited us last summer arrived with
their waggons and baggage, and encamp-
ed on the ^{stage} ~~wagon~~ road opposite to
Caveau dam. The reception they met
with here on this former visit ^{not} ~~was~~ in-
duced them to return to our village, but
probably they will attract less atten-
tion than in the former one.

They state that the late disturbances in
Canada ~~have~~ prevented their return
St. James River, their former residence.

Friday 25. Fair-morn but most
of the day cloudy & some rain;
apple blossoms fully out, and
also cherries. Vegetation now
coming forward with rapid steps.

Saturday 26 Sun. appeared in the morning
but shrouded most of the day.

Sunday 27. Fair and very
pleasant day; air moderate,
our apple trees present abundance
of blossoms.

Monday 28 Fair and pleasant
day; air moderately warm.

Tuesday 29 Fair day, with scattering
clouds; sometimes overcast - air
moderate.

Wednesday 30 Fair and pleasant
the foliage of the woods just thickening
and vegetation appears favorable.

Thurs. our member of Congress
sent me a Report of the
Militia Committee in Congress, May 11th,
with a Bill more effectually to pro-
vide for the national defense by
establishing a uniform militia throughout
the States.

The Bill proposes to divide the
militia into two classes, the active
and the general militia. The former
to be trained 6 days consecutively
each year, and compensated in the field
at ^{the rate} 150 cents per day, both

249

Army

officers come soldiers, and the same
way of war to furnish tents camp
equipages, whenever required by the
States and territories.

Some good features are found in
the bill, as well as some defective
ones; it contains but the outlines,
which the States are to fill up.

But I have no belief that the pre-
sent Congress will adopt ^{it}, or, in short,
any other. The majority of the mem-
bers do not see the importance of
a proper national force; and
while they are occupied with
banks and scribblings for office,
nothing of great importance will
be done. It is hoped however that
by touching the subject in Congress
may at least, turn the attention of a
few to its importance, and ^{arouse} ~~draw~~
the sleep of others, now laboring in
an emiculus.

The ~~force~~ ^{number} of the entire militia, as
is supposed by the Committee, will
be 200,000. Half the number would
be sufficient, while the general
militia should be ready to furnish
more when wanted. The

The true synopsis that the current appropriation of 200,000 dollars, by the end of April 1868, for the purpose of providing arms and military equipments for the whole body of the militia, shall be appropriated solely for the use and service of the active militia. This is wise! -

The principle for forming the general class into Divisions & Brigades is an error. They should form Regiments only, and the Divisions & Brigades to be formed of the active class of all General Officers confining to them. We have Generals by the gross but very few Officers under that title.

The terms Elite and Indutary, or Active and Reserve militia, would be more appropriate.

In Massachusetts are absent principles in our Constitution, stands in the way of an efficient militia the giving the choice of Officers to themselves. In closing matters, must select those who are the most lax in enforcing orders. The republican system will not answer for

oldiers, when men became such
 they resign their civil liberty into
 the hands of their officers, and
 are subjects and springs in the mili-
 tary machine. This machine
 though not in itself republican,
 essential in all republican gov-
 ernments; it not only defends the
 country against foreign depredations
 it protects the rights of its citizens
 against local violence in time
 peace; and when duly con-
 trolled it is in reality the prope-
rietary, and cannot be danger-
 ous to liberty, until it ceases to
 be worked by a republican pow-
er. From the want of this ma-
 chine it is, that laws in the U.
 States are becoming no better
 than ropes of straw, and the civil
 rights of the citizens ^{lying} ~~lost~~ at the
 mercy of mobs. Let this machine
 remain a little longer in its pre-
 sent state, and law and order will
 be driven from the country, and
 the rights of individuals lost in
 anarchy & confusion.

Thursday 31. Fair and
fine day; moderately warm.

The month of May closes with
growing appearance of a
beautiful season, most of our
crops having a good aspect;
the crop of Rye now heading out
looks well.

June, Friday 1st Fair
and pleasant; air moderately
warm.

Letter from the Secretary of War Jan.
1838: Read in Congress and laid on the
table; forwarded to me by Mr. Grinnell.

The letter relates to the harbor of Pro-
vincetown, Cape Cod, Massachusetts.
Surveys have been made by triangula-
tion with great care for a plan
of the harbor and contiguous lands;
~~and~~ numerous observations made
on the tides & currents in the adjacent
waters and the heights of the land
taken and many soundings.

The Lat. of Cape Cod Light house is
stated at $42^{\circ} 2' 19''$ - Long. $70^{\circ} 4' 22''$
from Perry's Almanac. The mag.

June

251

retic variation 9-20 west.

The meridian is laid down upon
chart in comparison with some of
^{judges of the} principle triangles, by means of ob-
servations made with the theodolite
from the Star Polaris, when in its
nearest elongation east. The opera-
tions under the charge of James D.
Graham, Maj. U.S. Top. Engineer.
A number of extensive tables accom-
pany the Report, containing accurate
statements of the tides, winds &c.
Four thousand copies of the Report and
chart are ordered to be printed.

The object of the Survey is to establish
a naval station at the Cape, for housing
ships. Never will the Cape be a
safe station against a Spanish fleet.
Why may it not be as easily black-
mailed as an inland harbor?

A sprinkling of rain & some lightning &
thunder towards sun set; when
I rec^d a letter from Arthur
Clute Paris May 18th, in which
he acknowledges ^{the rec^d of} mine of the 2^d & 3^d
instant, & 14th april by the
Stebbins, (my page letter), ~~all~~
~~the same are sent~~ and also

June

~~another~~ of the 7th of May; Henry
 L. H. Lewis at Danville. After the
 meeting of his Board of Commissioners
 on the 4th of June, he writes me
 a long letter. In his letter he says
 "all are well" meaning, I suppose, his
 company or brigade, since that
 the Stubbins have arrived at Ro-
combe in good health.

He advises all emigrants to come
 to Illinois by the Ohio and St. Louis,
 since says the Wabash and Erie
 Canal will not be finished for
 a long time.

Saturday 2. Cloudy morn-
 -ing. Fair & brisk. W. wine & cook.

Last evening Ebenezer H. Williams
 died at his house; he had been un-
 well for sometime, and his mind
 occasionally ^{occasionally} changed; - aged 77 years. Born
 in Roxbury, ^{Mass.} Son of Dr. Thomas
 of that place, and the last of the
 descendants (in this town) of the Rev.
 John Williams, the Indian Capt.
 in 1704 in being of the 4th generation.

Sunday 3. Fair, but ^{part of} foggy day.
 Last night rather cold, the effect of
 the W. wine yesterday.

Contents

Professor Hitchcock's Report -	190
Little Culcarion matter in iron soils	195
Alluvial soils quality of -	196
Marls Definition of -	198
Proposed nomenclature of -	ib.
Sternity of the Universe -	200
Parting with my ^{residence} family -	204
Report of the Western Rail Road -	207
Lecture on Slavery -	209
Arrival of Steam ships from England -	210
Militia Return of Arms -	213
Gaining Discomf and Bowditch -	215
Recess's Humbugs of N. York -	211
Prerogative of the Legislature -	218
Steam Boat explosion at Cincinnati -	219
Gen. Everett's Orations &c -	222
Territorial Territory established -	224
Death of Dr. John H. Steel -	ib.
Fire at Charleston, S. Carolina -	225
General Lecture on Astronomy &c. -	227
Emancipation in Antigua -	231
Influenza prevalence of -	232
Another Steam Boat explosion -	233
Letter of Maxwell to Mr. Webster -	236
Rebark & Fire Cannon -	240
N. Court of Amice traced -	241
Notes at Philadelphia -	242
New militia Bill in Congress -	246
Survey of Cape Cod Harbor -	250

